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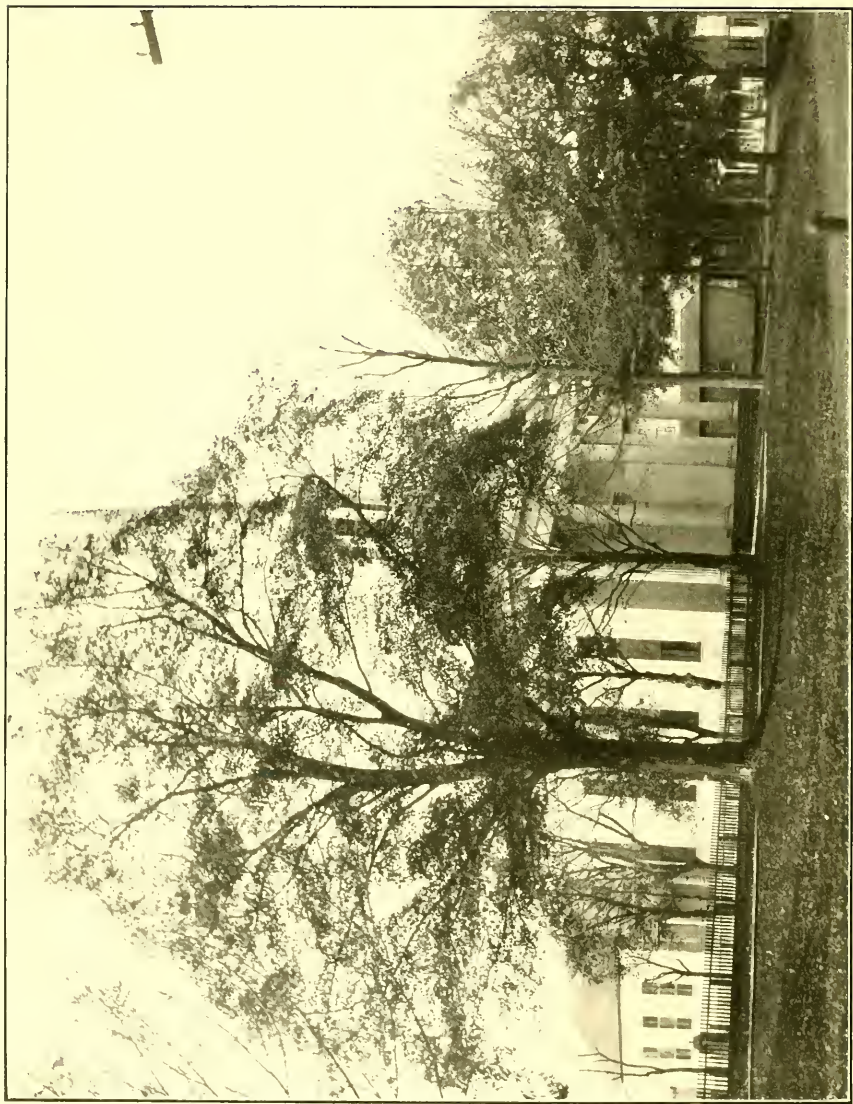












CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, DURHAM, CONN.



# MILES MERWIN

1623 - 1697

AND ONE BRANCH


—OF—

HIS DESCENDANTS

—BY—

CAROLINE GAYLORD NEWTON

1909



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# MILES MERWIN

1623-1697

AND ONE BRANCH OF HIS DESCENDANTS

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In the early part of the year 1630, in the town of Plymouth in England, there was a solemn ceremony, of the organization of a church composed entirely of those who were about leaving, or had already left their homes, and were coming together, members of one church family, to make new homes in the new world of America.

Rev. John Warham, a man of excellent education and ability, a graduate of Oxford University, was installed pastor, and Mr. John Branker was ruling elder and school master.

There were one hundred and forty persons in this company, some of them little children, and among them was one boy named Miles Merwin, supposed to be at that time about seven years old, who was to cross the ocean in the care of his Aunt Abigail, the wife of John Branker.

They sailed from Plymouth the 20th day of March, 1630, in the ship *Mary and John*, called

“Mr. Ludlow’s vessel,” of about 400 tons burden.

They were ten weeks on the ocean, and as there were two ministers with them, they had preaching every day of the voyage.

The ship reached the land at Nantasket, Mass., on the Sabbath-day, May 30th, and the next day, Monday, they were put on shore with their goods and cattle.

After some exploration by ten men of their number, they chose a place for settlement, and named it Dorchester.

In that first year after their arrival in this country, they endured much hardship. They might perhaps have planted some seeds, as they were here in the month of June, but they must first have some shelter for wives and little ones, and with little sowing, there was little reaping, and in the winter of 1680-31, they suffered from hunger. They were near the coast, and clams, muscles and fish were the chief articles of food.

A pleasant sight to them were the friendly Indians who came with baskets of yellow corn on their backs for sale, and later, ships came laden with the same from Virginia, until, as one of them writes “they were filled with food and gladness. Then did all the servants of God bless His holy name, and love one another with pure hearts fervently.”

They remained in Dorchester five years, hearing much during that time about the fertile meadow land bordering on the Great River westward. Meadow land, so-called, which was comparatively free from forests, and did not need to be cleared by hard labor with the axe, was much desired by them, and in the autumn of the year 1635, about sixty men, women and children, with them young Miles Merwin, driving before them their cattle and swine, a tedious journey of many days, reached and crossed the Connecticut River, and settled themselves on its western shore, between that and the Farmington River, which they called the Rivulet.

Their new home they at first named Dorchester, but the name was changed to Windsor, at a meeting of the General Court in February 1636-7.

It was not to a wilderness they came, like the Pilgrims of 1620, a few having settled here before the coming of the church body; for this was the second removal of the church which had been formed in England, and there were no new ceremonies of church organization either in Dorchester or Windsor.

It was now the month of October, and but little time could be counted on for preparing shelter for themselves and their cattle.

Some began digging cellars, usually choosing

the slope of a hill; some chopped down trees and hewed them roughly and hastily; these laid around and over the cellars, and thatched with the dry meadow grass, were their abodes for the first hard winter, and served as foundations for the log houses to be later built.

The winter came early; the river was frozen over by the middle of November, and there was much suffering.

Many of the cattle died: one estimate says they lost in their dying stock, the value of £2400, and some of the remainder they were obliged to kill for food.

The Indians were numerous, and being at first friendly, helped out their supplies somewhat by corn and acorns.

All the land in the three neighboring settlements of Windsor, Hartford and Wethersfield had been honestly purchased of the Indians, although those Indians did not realize that they would be crowded out of their hunting and fishing by the palefaces.

The next year, in 1636, the Indians became very threatening, and formed a plan for driving all the white settlers from New England.

Upon their first coming to Windsor, the Indians were peaceful, and the settlers chose their home lots as far from each other as they pleased; but within two years, early in 1637, there was

evidently danger from some of the neighboring tribes, and every family who had been farther away moved to the center, those who were already there, giving up a part of their land to these others, and all giving their time and strength to cutting and setting a strong palisade of high stakes or posts, braced within, and encircled outside by a wide, deep ditch. I have seen traces of this ditch two hundred and sixty years later.

The whole length of this line of palisades was but little less than a mile, and after it was finished, a constant guard was necessary, lest the Indians should succeed in climbing over, or in setting fire to it.

The story of the Pequot War need not be told here. Miles Merwin was probably too young to have any part in it, but not too young to help in gathering the supplies, or to guard the Palisade, within which, for a time, all must dwell.

At the Court of the Colonies convened at Hartford, May 1st, 1637, it was decided that there should be an offensive war against the Pequots, and Captain John Mason, one of these Windsor settlers, was appointed commander of the ninety men who were to go against that tribe.

Windsor was to furnish thirty men, and as its share of supplies, sixty bushels of corn, fifty



pieces of pork, thirty pounds of rice and four cheeses. Each plantation must have its corn ground and a part of it made into bread.

Whether the corn-mill called Warham's Mill was in operation at this time, is uncertain, but it was running soon after, for in 1640 the record reads :

“Mr. John Warham has by gift of  
ye Town one acre of land more or less,  
lying by his mill, as it bounds north,  
beginning at ye fall of ye water out of  
ye Trough upon ye Wheel.”

Tradition claims that this was the first grist mill in Connecticut, and that it ground the corn of neighboring towns as far away as Middletown. The Colonists erected it, fitted it with a great clumsy wheel, and presented it to Rev. Mr. Warham, as a part of his support.

Twenty-four years later, in 1664, he gave a deed of it to his wife, Abigail Branker Warham, the aunt of Miles Merwin, and it is probable that Miles had spent many hours in watching the grain through the hopper, and taking the minister's toll.

The beautiful Green, near the old Windsor church, has always borne the name of Palisado Green in memory of the early Indian troubles.

After the close of the Pequot War, and the

return of Captain Mason and his men, some left the protection of the Palisade and returned to their farms, and there was but little more trouble with Indians.

The Rev. Mr. Warham removed across the Farmington River and built his house near the small Mill-brook upon which his mill was standing, and one of his numerous deeds mentions a "small palisade" which must have been set up there for the protection of those who could not in a time of danger, cross to Palisado Green.

It was several years before there was a permanent bridge, and the minister was obliged to cross in a row-boat or canoe every Sabbath day. The Rivulet, as they called it, was usually narrow and quiet, but in the spring it was often a wide roaring torrent.

In 1650, it was ordered at the town meeting that "upon the Lord's days, none shall go into the canoe before the magistrates and elders, and that there shall not go at any time above thirty-five persons in the great canoe, and not above six in the little canoe, upon penalty of five pence."

Mr. Branker with his wife and Miles Merwin, were living on the farther side near Mr. Warham, and as ruling elder, he with his family was favored with an early passage across the river.

The meeting-house was erected in 1640, but was not finished until a long time after that, for every board was sawed by hand, and the nails were made, one by one, by a blacksmith, and the trouble with the Indians had taken much time.

It is said by Cotton Mather that Mr. Warham was the first minister in this country to preach with notes. Some of his sermons are still in existence in the State Library in Hartford.

Mather, speaking of the notable energy and vigor of his ministry, says: "He was as pious a man as most that were out of Heaven." John Warham and Thomas Hooker had been friends in the Colony of Massachusetts Bay, and their friendship was continued in Connecticut as neighbors; Warham having come in 1635, Hooker in 1636.

Besides his church and his mill, Mr. Warham had a fondness for dealing in real estate, as did many others who came from England, where a right in land was more difficult to obtain. There are on the records, twelve or more deeds of property with his name attached.

Miles Merwin, upon becoming of legal age, had this prevalent habit of buying and selling again.

He bought of Mr. Whiting a lot west of the Rivulet with the building thereon for £8. The

price seems very low, but this is supposed to have been the stone house which was built by Rodger Ludlow, who removed to Fairfield. The house was built on the bank of the river, between that and a smaller brook flowing into it, and the spring floods came very near it, on one occasion entirely surrounding it; so that it was "drowned very deep." Miles found it, for this reason or some other, "too hard" for him, and was released from his bargain.

He bought a lot in the Great Meadow for £20 and was released from this also by Mr. Whiting's executors.

Thomas Marshfield had built a house on the lot next north of Mr. Branker's in 1637, which was afterwards purchased by Roger Williams, who owned it for three years, and sold it then, in 1650, the homestead with the land, to Miles Merwin.

Miles was then twenty-seven years old, and was already married to Elizabeth Baldwin, widow of Theophilus Canfield, and it is supposed that the three elder children, John, Elizabeth and Thomas, were born in this house, which stood on the east side of Broad Street.

He sold the place in 1652 to Captain Samuel Marshall, but Marshall did not occupy it, and probably Miles Merwin remained in it until his removal to Milford.

In an old "Book of Rates" concerning seating the meeting-house in Windsor, under date of January 18th, 1659-60, Miles Merwin's name is down as paying seven shillings; this was the highest price paid for a man and his wife, and very few paid as much as that, but this was not the yearly payment.

When the meeting-house was built, pews were not provided, and each man apparently, paid for building a seat for himself.

Miles Merwin's was one of those raised a little higher than others, which accounts for a shilling more in price.

Miles Merwin was admitted to the church in Milford May 4th, 1661, his wife in June of the same year. Her youngest child, Daniel, was born June 30th, 1661.

Lambert's History says that Miles Merwin was in Milford in 1645, but this is a mistake which probably arose from confusing his name with that of Miles Moore, who was there at that date.

In the earliest original record of the Town of Milford, which I have carefully examined, Moore's name is spelled M-u-r, in the list of baptisms, as follows:

Deborah, dau. Isabel, wife of Miles M-u-r, bapt. Oct. 31, 1647.

Miriam, dau. Isabel, wife of Miles M-u-r, bapt. Dec. 12, 1647.

Lydia, dau. Isabel, wife of Miles M-u-r, bapt. Oct. 5, 1649.

On other pages of the record, the following :

Abel, son of Miles Moor, Feb. 15th, 1652.

Mary, dau. Miles Moor, Nov. 9th, 1653.

Elnathan, son Miles Moor, Sept. 1655.

In the list of planters in 1646, his name is Miles Moore.

This list of Moor children is inserted here, because some have erroneously supposed the Deborah, Miriam and Lydia, named above, to be children of Miles Merwin.

The first record in Milford of a baptism of the Merwin name is : "August 21st, 1656, Samuel Merwin, sonne of Miles Merwin of Milford."

In the early Land Records of the Town of Milford, there are many pages closely written, on which the entries have no separate dates. The year is, in some cases, placed at the top of the page.

One page is dated 1649, then for several pages there is no date, the next being 1669, a period of twenty years.

About midway of these pages is the entry :

"Miles Merwin hath given him by this Court

for his Encouragement to settle with the Town, ten acres of land, five acres being in Brick Kiln Swamp."

The first entry of the Merwin name that I find with a definite date, is January 10th, 1654. There was then a grant "by the Town of Milford to Tanner Miles Marwin of a lott next unto Ensign Bryan's Warehouse by the harbour's side, for to build and improve his trade thereon."

Another "item" says, that Marwin's tan-works were a few rods west of Bryan's wharf.

"Feb. 7th, 1657, the General Court granted six acres of land to Miles Marwin."

"1657, Miles Marwin hath liberty to remove the gate and fence at the land, and to set it up again at the corner of the front of his lott, next the lott that is still in the Towne's hands, overthrowing that highway, and join it to Sam Coley's fence, which the said Miles Marwin undertakes to freely at his own cost, not only to remove, but to maintain it as his own for three years from that day, upon the condition that the Town will give him a little spot of marsh that lies with his lott which the Town or Court did grant him ; but how far his marsh should run into the harbour he knows not ; there is four rods by the house and eight by the other end."



Each planter kept up his proportion of the common fence, and carved the initials of his name on a stake at each end of his his own line.

It must be remembered that all the dwelling houses in Milford, at this time, were within the palisade for protection from the Indians. These palisades were large posts ten or twelve feet high, set so closely that a man could not pass between them, ingress and egress being only through the gates. Gates were made and kept in order by individuals, the use of more land being granted them for their trouble. Jonathan Baldwin had eighteen acres for the gate in Ferry Neck.

The land enclosed by the palisade at Milford was nearly a mile square, and in 1656, a law was made that no Indian should, on any pretext, be allowed to remain within it over night.

The Indians had a village at the place now called Burwell's Farms, and had been at times quite troublesome, especially so in the years 1645, 1646 and 1653.

At one time they had set the grass and woods surrounding the palisade on fire, and the settlers had serious trouble to save their homes from destruction.

The land had been purchased from the Indians, the price being six coats, ten blankets, one kettle, and a quantity of hoes, knives, hatchets

and small mirrors, but not all members of this Wepawaug tribe considered themselves bound by the transaction.

The last deed given by the Indians of land in Milford was the twenty acres on the high bluff now known as Welch's Point. The price then paid was six coats, two blankets and three pairs of breeches.

Thomas Welch, my great-great-great-great-great-grandfather afterwards bought it of the town for £21, 6 shillings, and it has ever since been called by his name, Welch's Point.

"Town-Meeting, January 10th, 1659."

"Ordered, that Miles Marwin have ten acres of land given him in the swamp about the Brick Kilns."

(Evidently this was wooded, as others were allowed to draw wood from it, and "if he do not improve it, it reverts to the town.")

"General Court held at Milford, March 19th, 1659-60.

"Miles Marwin hath liberty to have the remainder of his land which the town granted him, next to John Brown's land on this side of it, in the Indian side."

"General Court held in Milford, April 27, 1660.

"The town hath given liberty to John Stream and Miles Marwin to have the town line to run

on the outside of those Lotts, provided they bare the multiplication of fence, and also have the consent of the owners of that fence which lyeth against their land, and also that they be at the charge to remove the gates."

"April 27, 1660, item. The town declared themselves by a vote that Miles Marwin shall have that piece of land for his own properties which he hath taken in with his meadow at Oyster meadow, provided that he pay rates for it according as it shall be sized by Thomas Wheeler and Stephen Freeman, for they are appointed by the town to size it.

"*Item.* Miles Marwin hath liberty to lay down his piece of land in the Indian side, and to take up so much beyond Sarg't Fowler's or anywhere thereabout where he can find it."

Jasper Gunn is chosen by the town to measure the lands.

"1665. Miles Marwin is granted liberty to take up the land which was granted to Goodman Botts, by his own lott at sea-side, on the Indian side, convenient highways being reserved."

All these are from the Milford proprietors, and not deeds from one man to another.

In each case the name is spelled Marwin.

Land which was otherwise unclaimed was divided among the early settlers at different

times. There was one division in 1645, another in 1646, a half division, whatever that may mean, in 1658 and the other half in 1660; another half division in 1676, the remaining half in 1679. One in 1686, when there were 129 persons. The last one was in 1689.

In a division about 1676, Miles Marwin has two shares.

At a meeting of the General Court, January 6, 1687, there had been some difference between Lieut. Samuel Burwell and Miles Marwin about the line between their lands near the Round Meadow, and a committee of six men were appointed to adjust it. Their decision was accepted by both parties, and was signed, "In behalf of Father, I Thomas Marwin, am satisfied."

After receiving these grants of land from the Proprietors, and having sold his lands in Windsor, and received all he could expect from his Aunt Abigail, Miles Marwin purchased a large tract of land on the shore of Long Island Sound, some of it comprising a part of what is now known as Pond Point, Merwin's Point, and Woodmont, extending across Oyster River into what is now the Town of Orange.

Some of this land has ever since been, and still is, in the possession of his descendants, a period of more than two hundred years.

In the meantime, the circumstances of Miles

Merwin's relatives in Windsor has had greatly changed.

Mr. John Branker, the husband of his Aunt Abigail, a gentleman of good education, had been the first school-master, and long continued in that office.

February\* 1656-7 it was voted that Mr. Branker should have £5 paid to him out of the next town rate toward his maintenance of a school.

In his office as ruling elder of the church, having been regularly and solemnly ordained, he occasionally delivered the weekly lecture in the absence of the minister, and it was his duty to visit and pray with the sick, and in the public congregation, to pray and expound the scriptures.

He possessed considerable property, and dying May 29, 1662, he left it all by will to his widow, Abigail, who promptly married the minister, Rev. John Warham, at that time a widower.

Mr. Warham moved into her house, which was repaired for their use, but it was later sold to Thomas Allyn, who had married Mr. Warham's daughter Abigail.

The minister had a salary besides the income of the grain mill; in 1650, he had one hundred pounds; in 1656, four score and ten pounds.

In the year 1661, instead of a tax being laid,

his salary was paid by voluntary subscriptions, the smallest sum for the year being one shilling and sixpence; the largest, by Roger Ludlow, one pound, ten shillings.

The "toll" at the mill at the same time was one-sixteenth or two quarts in a bushel for English grain or malt grinding, and one twelfth for Indian corn.

Rev. Mr. Warham died April 1, 1670, but he had previously conveyed this mill to his wife, and a few days before his death, March 19, he had signed a will leaving to her all the property which had been her own before her marriage to him.

This was a necessary provision, for otherwise she would have had no real control of her own, though she had evidently used what power she had, for on April 11, 1670, eleven days after Mr. Warham's death, the record says:

"At a meeting of Assize, permission is asked to provide for debts contracted in the sickness of both Mr. and Mrs. Warham.

"The great expense that Mr. Warham's estate hath been at in mayntaning Mrs. Warham in the time of her exercises and affliction, upwards of two years, and her wastful disposing of many things without his privity."

Notwithstanding her "wastful disposing," there was considerable remaining, for his estate

inventoried well for those times: £1239, 10 s., the homestead being appraised at £250, land in the Great Meadow £100, books £82, 4s. &c.

Miles Merwin and his family, apparently Mrs. Warham's only relatives on this side of the ocean, had removed to Milford years before, but he visited his Aunt occasionally, and two of his children were her special favorites, one, Abigail, being her namesake, but she seems to have been offended by his leaving her in her old age. She had taken into her house to care for her after being left a widow, a family named Newberry, and they at her death came into possession of the house and furniture as their own.

A daughter of this family married a Mr. Rowland, and the house built by him, and still called the Rowland house, is built upon the John Branker home lot.

Mrs. Warham died in 1684, and although Miles Merwin was in Windsor on business in that year, it is not known whether he was with her at the time of her death; the family were in Milford.

There seems to have been trouble and disagreement over Mrs. Warham's will. She made what is called by the lawyers a nuncupative will, one not written, but made by word of mouth in the presence of witnessess, and this



was admitted by the Probate Court, and is now on record in Hartford.

Miles Merwin claimed that her written will, written sometime before, should be the one admitted, and presented his petition to the General Assembly in March, 1685.

To this petition this answer is recorded on page 190 of Colonial Records of Connecticut;

“A General Court held at Hartford, October 8, 1685.

“Upon the petition of Miles Merwin, this Court having heard what hath been presented against the settlement of Mrs. Abigail Warham’s estate by the County Court, March 5, 1685, and what hath been said for the confirmation thereof, doe see reason to settlement of the estate according as the Court of Assistants May last hath done.”

Although living at such a distance from Windsor, the first Miles Merwin seems to have displayed all the persistence in battling for what he considered his rights, that has been in later generations of the name, and in October of the same year, he presents another petition as follows:

Copy of Petition

Miles Merwin (Murwin)

Priv. Controv. Vol. 3, 91.

(State Library, State Capitol)

To the Honorable General Assembly, now sit-

ting in Hartford, ye Humble Petition of Miles Murwin sheweth:—

That whereas, Mrs. Abigail Waram ( Wareham ) Late of Windsor, ( being hereby Relative to ye petitioner ) Did make her last will and testament under her name and seal, And in ye said Will Did Apoynt ye petitioner sole executor to her said Will & Gave to ye petitioner a considerable Legacy, upon which ye petitioner Did appeare att ye County Court in Hartford in March last, . . . . . obtained a probation of ye said will which was exhibited in said Court & two witnesses present ready to give oath yt they saw ye testator sign ye said will. But Capt. Daniel Clarke with some others made some objections against ye probation of said will by which means ye petitioner could not gaine a probation of said will. Your petitioner also delivered ye Witnesses to give oath to Mr. John Warams signing of ye writing intended by him for his last will and testament ( but not accepted for such by ye County Court ) but could not obtain that either.

But ye worshipfull County Court proceeded to a distribution or settlement of some part ( at least ) of ye estate of ye said Mrs. Waram to the great dissatisfaction of your petitioner upon which ye petitioner Did apply himself to ye

Honored Court of Assistants in May last for Releef, but not obtaining ye Releef which was expected I have made bold to present this my complaints and petition to ye Honors for Releef Humbly craving yt I may have liberty granted for ye reading of that writing have references to ye matters which are in Court and then impartially to weigh my evidence and plead in equal scales of justice. And if they do not out weight all ye evidence and pleas of my adversaries I shall willingly acquiesce in what sentence shall proceed from ye Honors. I doe most humbly crave yt I may have but what Law and Justice Gives mee that I may not bee much overrun by ye power and policy of my adversaries who I know to bee much advantaged in both but yet I Hope my Rituious cause will in part plead for it selfe. Soe Resting in Hopes I subscribe ye Honors in all Dutyfull submission.

(Signed) Miles Murwin, Senior.

Oct. 12. 1685.

This petition of Miles Merwin was also refused, and the will which was admitted, and which I have seen in the Probate Office at Hartford, is as follows :

“We underwritten being present with Mrs. Warham who spent her last days in our family,

she discoursing with us respecting her estate, she declared that she had formerly given her Cousin Miles Merwin such a multitude, that if she had thousands she would not give him a penny. *No, not a pinns poynt.* She further said that things were so with her now in regard of her long sickness and expense thereupon, that she could not tell whether she had anything to give away. She also disowned that she had any will, and said further that her cousin, Miles Merwin, desired that she would make over her estate to him, and she manifested herself much troubled, and said she knew not but that she might live to need and expend it, and that she had before she dyed.

Mary, the wife of Capt. Newberry, and Abigail, the daughter of the aforesaid, both affirm that Mrs. Warham sayd to them when she was of good understanding & sound memory concerning her estate, that if there was anything left when the Court had to consider thereof, she had thought that *little* Miles Merwin should have somewhat, and the other that lived with her so long, & as for her moveables that were brought into her house, Return Strong, Mary Newberry and Abigail doe testify she freely gave them to us, and sayd they should not be taken from us. The above sayd was by her

declared to us sometime last March. September 4, 1684.

Benjamin Newberry  
Mary M. Newberry's mark  
Abigail C. Newberry's mark  
Return Strong"

To this paper, the names of Miles Merwin's six older children only are appended, Elizabeth, John, Abigail, Thomas, Samuel and Miles, although ten must have been living at that time.

The one "who lived with her so long", was the eldest daughter, Elizabeth. Abigail Warham's estate inventoried one hundred and twenty-six pounds, fourteen shillings and six pence.

The Probate Court, March 10, 1684-5, ordered the Administrators, Captain Newberry and Return Strong, to distribute:

"To Miles Merwin, Jr., one third of the Estate:

To Elizabeth two thirds of one third:

To John, Thomas, Samuel and Abigail the remainder; Miles Junior to possess the Lands if he desire it, he paying his brothers and sisters as the Administrators may appoint."

This inventory and distribution appear not to include the house and furniture which Captain Newberry claimed, but the children of Miles Merwin inherited all except that. Whether the appeal of their father made any real difference

in the final settlement of the estate is not known.

The Merwin relatives were the only ones on this side of the ocean.

It was in this year of 1684, that Miles Merwin of Milford was a witness in the important law-case of Whiting vs. Bissell in Windsor, testifying concerning his own purchase and sale of real estate there, and it was probably from his testimony at that time, that Savage in his *Genealogy* takes the dates which he gives thus :

“Miles Merwin in 1684, calls himself 60 years old, but in 1692 says about 70. He died April 23rd, 1697, aged about 74.”

Miles Merwin's first wife, Elizabeth Baldwin Canfield, the mother of his seven older children, John, Elizabeth, Thomas, Samuel, Miles, Daniel and Abigail, had died July 10, 1664.

He soon married again, Sarah Platt, daughter of Deacon Richard Platt, and widow of Thomas Beach.

By her he had five children, Martha and Maria, twins born Jan. 23, 1665-6; Hannah, November 15, 1667; and Deborah and Daniel born April 24, 1670.

At the birth of this second pair of twins, the mother died, and probably little Daniel also, as the baptism of Deborah only is recorded. “Giving two sons in the family the same name, as

two here were named Daniel, though unusual, was not unknown later in the same family, perhaps in order that if one should die, a favorite name should not perish.

After her death, Miles Merwin married again, taking for the third time a widow, Sarah, widow of Daniel Schofield.

She had six children by her first husband, but none by Merwin.

Realizing that he must now be near the close of his busy and eventful life, he began to plan for the suitable disposition of his large property.

Besides his extensive farming operations, he had carried on the business of tanner and currier, and living on the seacoast, he became part owner of a sloop and two brigs, making voyages to the West Indies.

His eldest son, John, who was settled on the homestead with him, continued this commerce, and John's son-in-law, John Collins, commanding the ship *Swan*, sailed from Milford to the West Indies for sixteen years, until the *Swan* was finally lost at sea.

Ship building was carried on in Milford Harbor, on the eastern shore, across the bay from Miles Merwin's tannery.

The tannery business he gave to the eldest son, John. John had married April 12, 1683,

the widow Mary Holbrook, and they, with their little family, had lived in the father's home.

A deed dated June 4, 1695, gives to this "eldest son John, for consideration of one hundred and fifty pounds, the house in which they now dwell together, with Barn, Tanhouse, Salthouse and Leantoës, Tan-yard, Malt-house and all tools and Implements that belong to the trade of a Tanner, also Homelott, Orchard, Gardens, Yards and Marsh."

A deed dated May 17, 1695, gives to his son Samuel Merwin, a piece of land, the consideration being that Samuel shall pay his own eldest child ten pounds "as a Legacy from Mee."

At the same date he deeds Samuel sundry parcels of land.

The next year, March 9, 1686, he gives another deed of property to John.

Previously to all these, he had made his will, Dated May 5, 1695, apparently writing it out himself, and remembering all of his many descendants.

The item in this will, of fifteen Bibles for the fifteen grand children, seems to have been a common bequest in that century.

The will of Deacon Richard Platt, grandfather of six of Miles Merwin's children, dated 1683, bequeaths a Bible to each of the two younger ones, Hannah and Deborah Merwin, showing



that he had probably already given them to the older ones in his life time.

This little girl of thirteen years, Deborah Merwin, who received the Bible from her grandfather Platt, was my great-great-great-great-grandmother on my father's side. Her daughter, Mary Burwell, married Abner Newton and settled in Durham.

Many of the descendants of the first Miles Merwin, by this daughter Deborah, bearing the name of Newton, are still living in Durham.

Henry Gleason Newton, George Watson, Arthur Selden and Caroline Gaylord of the sixth generation from Miles Merwin; William, Frederic, Roger, Gaylord, Abner and Katharine of the seventh generation; Elmer and Stanley of the eighth.

All these descendants of Miles Merwin have the surname of Newton.

There is one little one, Elizabeth Mary, daughter of Frederic Alling and Harriet Camp Newton, his wife, of the ninth generation.

Henry Huntington Newton, of the sixth, for many years the eldest and most honored head of this branch of the family, died October 6, 1907.

There were besides, many descendants of those of this line who removed from Durham to Greenfield, Mass., about the year 1760, and to Hartford and Hartland, Conn., about 1780.



ROGER WATSON NEWTON  
Sixth generation, age 84 years  
CHARLES WATSON NEWTON, Eighth  
KATHARINE HUNTINGTON NEWTON, "  
ROGER ROSSITER NEWTON "





HOME OF HENRY HUNTINGTON NEWTON, DURHAM, CONN.



Deborah Merwin's brother Miles was our ancestor also, Deborah, in the line of my father, Gaylord Newton, and Miles in the line of my mother, Nancy Maria Merwin, by whom our family are counted in both the sixth and seventh generations.

### MILES MERWIN'S WILL.

The last will and testament of Miles Merwin of Milford, Senr in ye county of New Haven in New England, made this 5th day of May in ye yeare of ye Lord Christ, 1695.

I, Miles Merwin aforesaid, being in spirit & sound memory, & understanding, although under some infirmity of body, Doe heare make this my last will & testament in manner & forme as followeth :

First, I give & bequeath my soule into the hands of God through Jesus Christ who gave it, and my body to a Devout & Christian Buriall.

Imprimis, I give to my dearly beloved wife, Sarah Merwin, ten pounds a year during her widowhood. Also, I give the house and ye improvement of my Parlor & ye Leantoe, with what room she needeth in ye Cellar in what part she pleaseth, so long as she shall see cause to live in my house in her widowhood. Item. I give to my loving wife for her use while she

liveth in my house the use or power to command for her use in ye house two beds wth all their furniture . . . in both for summer and winter, wth bed linen shee needeth for her comfort she shall have. Also she shall have power to command for her use ye oven in my other roome wth potts, kettles, skillets, pot-hangers, pails, wooden-ware of wht sort soever. And what earthen ware she needeth for her use.

Also for her use I give her her choice of my spinning wheels & power to command one or more when she needeth.

Also I give to my sd wife Cider enough to fill two barrells & ten bushells of apples yearly if my orchard at home yield so much : & if it prove a plentiful year at any time, then she shall have cider enough to fill three barrels, she finding barrels for ye whole, besides ye ten bushells of apples yearly. Also I give her ye use and benefit of one cow wh cow is to be maintained winter and summer by my executors.

All wh gifts and legacies be to her only during her widowhood. And if she see good to remove herself for some time, she shall have liberty to come again to my house when she pleaseth ; but if she changeth her condition by marriage, then all the aforesaid guifts and legacies to cease, that is all which is above expressed.





KATHARINE HUNTINGTON NEWTON  
ROGER ROSSITER NEWTON  
Eighth in descent from Miles Merwin  
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And my executor shall pay unto my wife ye full sum of forty shillings a year during her natural life, which I will and bequeath unto her.

Item. I give unto my grandchildren: namely ye children of Sarah Pottet wch she had by John Pottet of Stamford, and to soe many of them as shall be living after my decease, the sum of twenty shillings apiece.

Item. I give to John Scofell of Stamford three pounds and ten shillings.

Item. I give to Mary Camp, wife of Samuel Camp of Milford, three pounds and ten shillings. Furthor my will is yt my wife shall have ye Dispose of ten pounds of my estate at her decease.

Item. My will is that those of my Children yt have not received their whole portion already, yt is to say John two hundred pounds, Thomas one hundred pounds, Samuel one hundred pounds, Miles one hundred pounds, with Compleating what is wanting to making ye just sum of fifty pounds to all and every of my own natural daughters, soe much as all or any of my children want of their portion, what any son wanteth of his hundred pounds as above expressed, and what any of my daughters want of their fifty pounds, shall be first paid by my executor after my decease.

Item. I give to my ten grandchildren one

hundred pounds: what is not already payd or paid by me while I live, shall be payd by my executor when they come of age: to ye eldest ye child of each family of my children's, it shall be payd, be they male or female.

Item. My will is, I give to all and every of my Grandchildren that shall be living at my decease One bible to be procured & delivered to all and every of them by my executor after my decease, as soone as may be with conveniency.

Item. My will is yt ye land I had of Nathll Farran, I say I will give it to my son John, his eldest child, to pay ye ten pound Legacy above mentioned to my Grandchild of ye house.

Item. My will is, my debts and Legacies being paid, yt ye Remainder of the estate shall be equally divided amongst all my natural children then living.

If any of my sons dye, ye family of ye deceased shall have their part, ye full of it. And if any of my daughters dye, there shall be no part of yt Dividable to ye house.

Item. My will is that my debts and Legacies be paid by my Executors.

Item. My will is, & I do nominate and appoint my two sons John Marwin & Miles Marwin to be my Executors of this my last will & testament. And further, if these Refuse or are

desabled, then ye full power to Execute shall be with the other.

And I do declare this is my will of all I have ordered to be paid for my deare wife, as is before expressed, the Burthen of it shall not be upon any one of my children, but it shall be borne by, and paid out of my estate by my Executors.

Item. My will is, & I heere declare it, yt if my son John Merwin shall have occasion for one hundred pounds stock for carying on his trade of farming, he shall have it out of my estate as be with him to be paid cash within six years after my decease by my sd son John His heires or Assignes as this my will directs.

Signed, sealed, and declared by Miles Merwin, Senr. to be his last will & testament in the presence of us.

Miles Merwin ( Seale )

Alex Bryan,

Josiah Plat, )

Edward Nilkison ) these 2 sworn in Court June 1697.

The names of ten children and fifteen grandchildren were written on the will in the Probate Office, as was the custom.

The children were all living at the time of his

death in 1697, except the two who were called Daniel, and all the daughters were married.

These are the names:	Grandchildren :
John Merwin,	John Merwin,
Thomas Merwin,	Thomas,
Samuel Merwin,	Sarah,
Elizabeth (Canfield),	Elizabeth,
Abigail (Scoffeild),	Abigail Canfield,
Martha (Prime),	Daniel Scoffeild,
Mary (Hull),	James Prime,
Hannah (Holbrook),	Mary Hull,
Deborah (Burwell),	Richard Holbrook,
(Miles Merwin),	Sarah Burwell,
	John Scoffeild,
	Mary Camp,
	John Pettit,
	Bethia Pettit,
	Mercy Beard.

John and Miles Merwin were sworn as executors in July, 1697.

The inventory of his possessions is dated May 12, 1697. The total was only £453, 11s, 11d.

A few items from the inventory give some idea of the prices of certain articles :

	£	s.	d.
Wearing apparel . . .	30	0	6
Buckles, etc. . . .	2	8	0
Sheets, pillow-beers, etc. .	40	0	6
One holland sheet, an old one, a feather bed, with curtains, blankets and coverlids .	17	0	0
Spoons, earthenware, woodenware	7	19	3

Miles Merwin's widow, Sarah Scofield Merwin, did not long survive him to enjoy her "potts and panns," her apples and cider, and her ten pounds a year.

She died in less than a year from the date of his death, March 5, 1698.

An inventory of her estate was made and preserved by the same men who had inventoried her husband's, Timothy Baldwin and John Smith, and it was sworn to before Richard Treat, Deputy Governor, June 16, 1698.

Here is part of it :

	£	s.	d.
One bedding with silk grass .	1	9	0
Caps . . . . .	4	2	0
Silk Caps . . . . .		8	0
2 Silk Hoods . . . . .		18	0
Handkerchiefs . . . . .	1	8	0
Two special handkerchiefs .		5	0
Pr. bodkins and stays . .		5	0
Gloves . . . . .		3	0
One manchester . . . . .		2	0
Two famars . . . . .	2	5	0
One safeguard . . . . .		16	0
New chest and lock . . . .		13	0
One half thousand of pins .		2	0

"Waistcoats," aprons, stockings and petticoats, red and blue ones especially mentioned,

were almost innumerable, the total amounting to £55, 19s. 3d.

Nathan G. Pond, in his pamphlet entitled "Ye Story of ye Memorial," that is, the story of the Milford Bridge, speaks of "a most interesting deed of entail made by Miles Merwin."

It would appear that Miles Merwin had no particular idea of founding a family to be called by his name, in the new world, according to the customs of Old England whence he came, and which he remembered, until the birth of his fourth son.

The first three had been named John, Thomas and Samuel, but when the fourth came, Dec. 14, 1658, he gave him his own name, and later gave him a deed of the best portion of his property, providing that it should always be inherited by the eldest son of the eldest son.

This deed was probably written by himself, two years before his death, and is curious for its exceedingly careful provisions.

"THIS INDENTURE, made the thirteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord God one thousand, six hundred ninety and five, between Miles Merwin, Sen'r Taner, of the one party, and Miles Merwin, Jun'r., of the other partie, both parties belonging to Milford in the County of New Haven in the Colony of Connecticut in New England *witnesseth* that the said Miles

Merwin, Sen'r, for and in consideration of the conditions which hereafter in and by those presents reserved and contained which on the part and behalf of the said Miles Merwin, Jun'r., are and ought to be paid, done and performed, full-filled and kept, hath given, granted, bargained, sold, alienated, Enfeoffed and Confirmed, and by this his present deed doth grant, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoffe unto his said son, Miles Merwin, Jun'r., a certain parcell or tract of land, being all and every part of that his farm commonly called and known by the name of Merwin's farm, situate lying and being within the bounds of Milford afforesaid at a place called the Indian side according to the limits bounds and extends thereof as may fully and plainly appear by the Records of Milford afforesaid as it belonged or ought to belong to the afforenamed Miles Merwin, Sen'r., Together with all Buildings, Edifices, Courtlages, gardens, Hontyards (courtyards?), Lands, Meadows, Pastures, Woods, Underwoods, Wasts, Wayes, Waters, Water-courses, easements, Proffitts, Privilidges, Appurtenances and Advantages whatsoever thereon being, thereunto belonging or thence arising by any manner of way or means whatsoever, as also two Oxen, five cows, and three other brooding Cattell, one Horse and one brooding mare and fourty sheep upon said farm together with the



Carts, Ploughs, Chains, tackling and all other Tools and Implements belonging to the said farm to *Have* and to *Hold* the said farm with all the buildings and Edifices, Cattell, Stock, Carts, Ploughs, Implements and all the singular the Premises with their and every of their Appurtenances before by these presents bargained and sold or meant mentioned or intended to be hereby granted, bargained and sold, and every part and parcell thereof from and after the decease of him the said Miles Merwin Sen'r., unto the said Miles Merwin, Jun'r., to the use and behoof of the said Miles Merwin, Jun'r., for the term of his natural life, and from and after his decease to the use and behoof of the First Son of the said Miles Merwin Jun'r of his body lawfully to be begotten and for default of such issue to the use and behoof of all and every other son and sons of the body of the said Miles Merwin Jun'r begotten or to be begotten one after another as they shall be in seniority of age and priority of birth, and of the heirs of the body of every of the same sons respectively to be begotten, the elder of the said sons and the heirs being always preferred before the younger and the heirs of their bodies. And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of Thomas Merwin, Son to the said Miles Merwin, Sen'r, and of the heirs males of the body of such First Son Lawfully to be be-



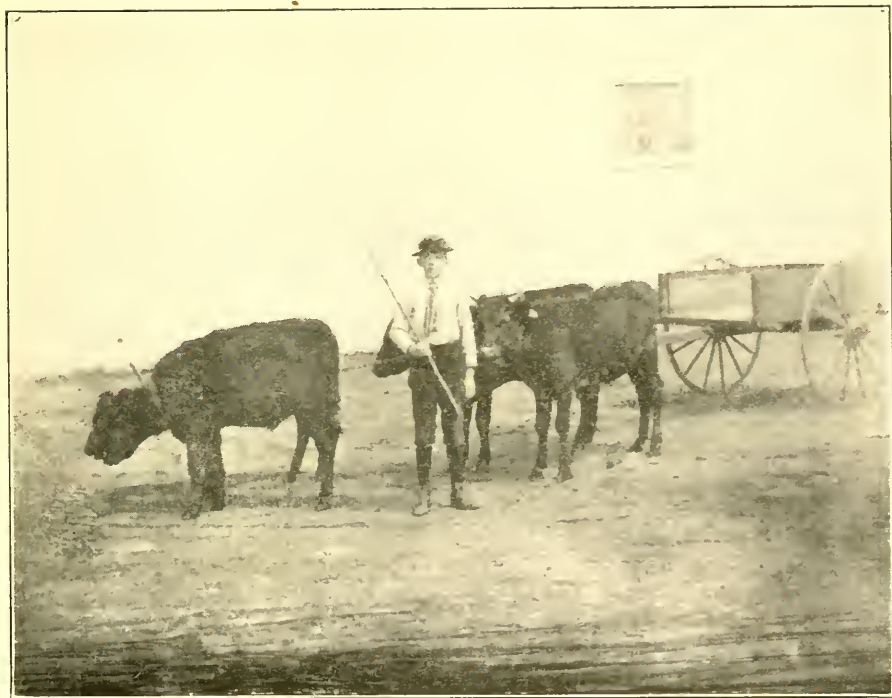
CHARLES NEWTON.



gotten, and for default of such issue, to the use and behoof of all and every other Son and Sons of the body of the said Thomas Merwin, Lawfully begotten or to be begotten, one after another, as they shall be in Seniority of age and priority of birth, and of the heirs of the body of every of the same sons respectively—the Elder of the said Sons and the heirs of his body being allways preferred before the younger and the heirs of their bodies.

And for default of such issue to the use and behoof of the First Son of Samuel Merwin, son to the said Miles Merwin, Sen'r., and of the Heirs Males of the body of such First Son—lawfully to be begotten, and for default of such issue to the use and behoof of all and every other son and sons of the body of the said Samuel Merwin lawfully begotten or to be begotten one after another as they shall be in seniority of age and priority of birth and of the body of every of the same sons respectively, the Elder of the said sons and the heirs of his body being allways preferred before the younger and the heirs of their bodies; and for default of such issue then to the use and behoof of the right heirs of the said Miles Merwin, Jun'r, forever. And the said Miles Merwin, Sen'r., for himself, his heirs, Executors and Administrators doth covenant promise and Grant to and with his said son

Miles Merwin, Jr., and said heirs by these presents that all the said farm Buildings and Premises and every part and parcell thereof with the Appurtenances now are and be and soe from time to time and at all times hereafter forever, shall or may remain and continue to the several respective uses before herein mentioned limited and declared according to the intent and meaning hereof freely cleared and discharged of and from all former and other bargains, Sales, gifts, leases, mortgages, troubles and incumbrances whatsoever, had, made, committed or done by him the said Miles Merwin, Senior, or any other Person or Persons lawfully claiming or to claim from, by or under him. Upon the condition following, that is to say, that the said Miles Merwin, Junior, or the heirs, as afore mentioned, shall well and duly pay, or cause to be paid, the full and Just summe of five hundred pounds, that is to say, twenty-five pounds a year till the full end and term of twenty years from and after the time of the decease of the said Miles Merwin, Senior, be fully completed and ended. In such pay as shall yearly be raised or produced off the said farm (Sider only excepted), to be paid at prices current between man and man, to all the children of the said Miles Merwin, Senior, (his Eldest Son John Merwin only excepted), equally to be divided among them, the



CHARLES WATSON NEWTON  
Eighth generation



said Miles Merwin, Junior, being one of them to have his share, and if any of the said Miles Merwin, Senior, his Sons dye before the receipts of such payments, then such payments shall be yearly made and paid during the whole time aforesaid to the children of such sons deceasing equally to be divided among them, but in case any of the said Miles Merwin, Senior, his daughters dye before the time of such yearly payments, then the said payments shall cease as to them and their children. Such daughters so deceasing before the time of such payments be due, their children shall not have any benefitt or share of the same. And it is covenanted granted and agreed by and between the said parties to these presents, and the said Miles Merwin, Senior, doth covenant, grant and agree to and with his said Son, Miles Merwin, Junior, and the Heirs as aforesaid that if it should so happen in any of the years of payment as above said that there should be extraordinary loss in Crops or Stocks on said Farm, that then the said Miles Merwin, Junior, or the heirs as aforesaid shall not be compelled to pay the said yearly payment in such a year wherein he or they have suffered such losses, but shall have further time to pay it in.

In Witness Whereof the said Miles Merwin Senior to these presents hath sett to his hand



and seal the day and year first above written in the seventh year of his Majesties Reign William the Third, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith.

Not that notwithstanding what is above mentioned the said Miles Merwin Senior reserves liberty to himself if he shall by Providence be reduced to a low state, to sell part or all of the fore mentioned farm for his subsistence which his said Son Miles Merwin Junior or one of his male children shall have the first refusal of, and deduction in such case to be made out of the above said five hundred pounds, according to the price that any part of the said farm shall be sold for ; this notation being entered before signing and sealing.

Miles Merwin (Seal)

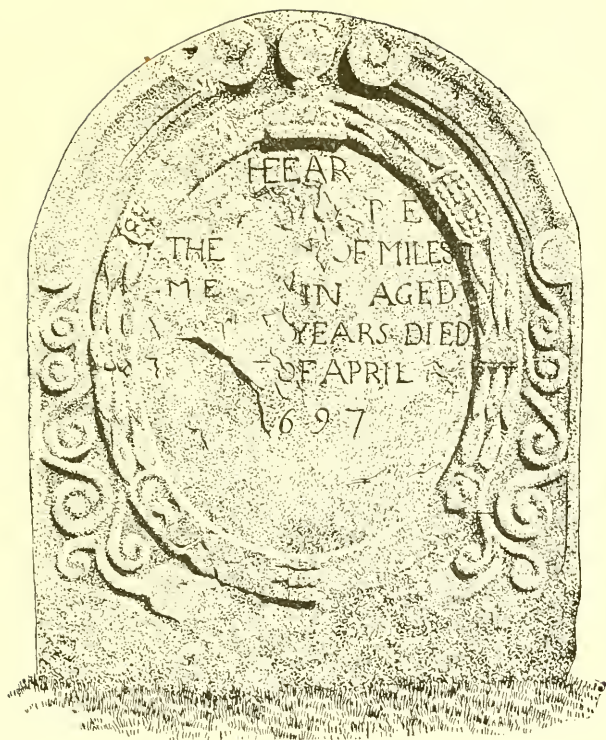
Signed, sealed and delivered  
in the presence of

Bartha : Langstaffe,  
Joseph Hollingworth,  
Stephen Miele.

This deed was acknowledged by the above written Miles Merwin, Senior the sixth day of June  
Ano Dom 1695 to be his act and deed before me

Recorded July the  
8th, 1695.

J. S. Bryan, Reg'r Alex Bryan, Commissioner.



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TOMBSTONE IN THE MILFORD CEMETERY  
of Miles Merwin, who died April 23d, 1697  
aged 74 years



John Merwin, the eldest son, remained in the home of their father, carrying on the same business of the tannery besides trading to the West Indies.

He married Mary, daughter of Thomas Welch, and widow of Isaac Holbrook, April 2, 1683.

Miles also married a widow, Hannah Wilmot, widow of Samuel Miles, September 26, 1681.

In those days of the settlement of different parts of New England, and the Indian wars, almost every woman appears to have been left a widow once or twice at least. The three marriages of the first Miles were all to widows.

This Miles of the second generation with his wife, Hannah, settled on the entailed estate given him by his father.

Their only daughter, Elizabeth, was born January 10, 1683. She married a son of Governor Robert Treat, but died young, leaving two little children.

Miles Merwin <sup>2</sup> and Hannah Wilmot had two sons, Miles and Daniel; Miles, the first born son, being the heir, according to the deed of entail.

This Miles, the second generation, born 1658, made his will, bequeathing as much of his property as he had power over, Oct. 21, 1721.

He had evidently a firm faith in the literal resurrection of the body, for the first provision is:

“I desire my body to have a decent burial, I believing that I shall receive it again.”

He left one hundred pounds to be divided equally between the children of his daughter, Elizabeth Treat, lately deceased.

He gave Daniel one good young cow besides what he had already given him in real or personal estate, but the house and land he could not give, it belonged to his son Miles.

In the time of a later Miles, this house had a trying experience. It was plundered, but not destroyed, by the British troops, when they landed in Milford in 1779.

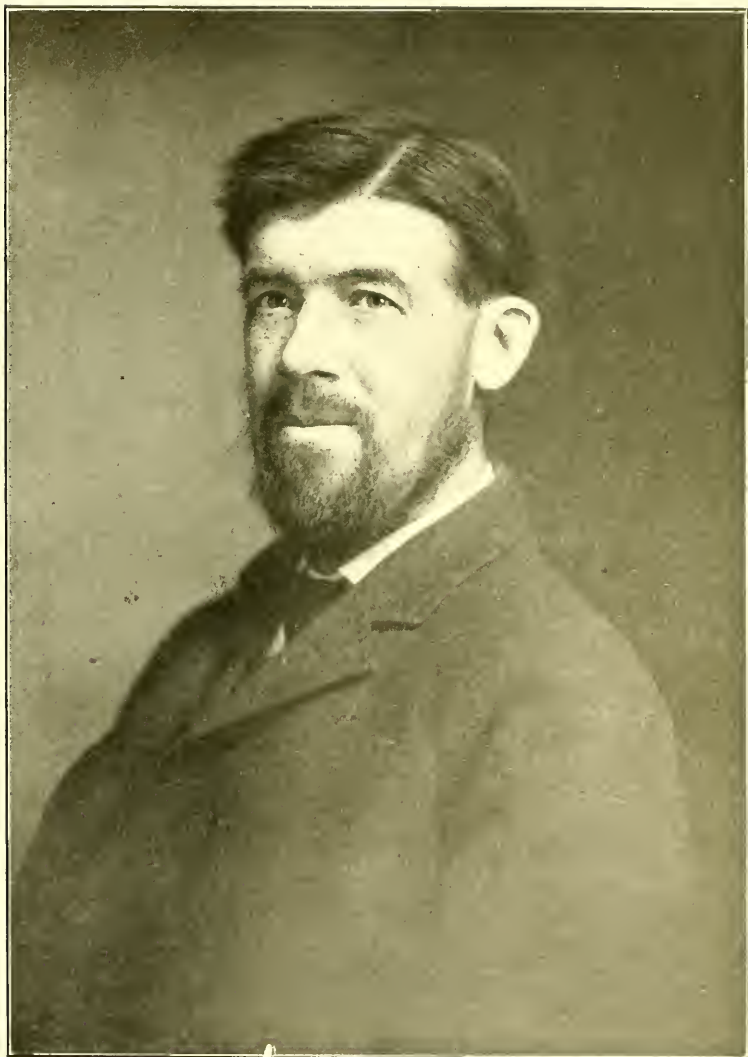
Lambert's History says :

“Twenty British ships lay off Milford a number of days, the inhabitants hourly expecting an attack, but only a few landed at Pond Point, and plundered one house, that of Mr. Miles Merwin. The house was closed at the time, the family having gone into the town.”

Milford had already seen much of the dreadfulness of war, before the slight matter of the plundering of the Merwin homestead.

In January, 1777, a vessel bearing a flag of truce arrived at Milford Harbor, having on board two hundred Americans who had been prisoners of the British on their ships at New York.





HENRY HUNTINGTON NEWTON

1841-1907

Seventh in descent from

Miles Merwin

Eighth from Richard Platt



CAROLINE GAYLORD NEWTON  
Seventh by her father  
Eighth by her mother





They were perishing with starvation, cold and disease; twenty had died on board the ship, coming up the sound, in the bitter winter weather.

The residents of Milford and surrounding towns came to care for them, but within a month, forty-six more had died, and were buried in one grave, in the south part of the Milford grave-yard. A tall brown stone monument inscribed with the forty-six names, marks the spot where they lie.

This was the time when my great-grandfather, Elisha Fairchild, drove his team of horses down from Middletown, to take some of those helpless ones back to their homes.

They were suffering with the small-pox; he contracted the disease from them, and died within a month, a real martyr of the Revolution, though not dying in battle.

He had been a soldier in the French and Indian War, coming through that unharmed.

He left a widow and five little children, one of whom, Abigail, became the wife of Abner Newton, my grandfather.

One of those for whom he thus give his life, was William Butler. Butler received a pension, living to a good old age, but the young widow and children of Elisha Fairchild were given no pension.

Returning from this digression to the third generation of Merwins, Daniel, second son of the second Miles, born in 1691, when he arrived at man's estate, saw his elder brother John settled in the family homestead, and his younger brother Miles<sup>3</sup> on the land which was to be his and his son's forever.

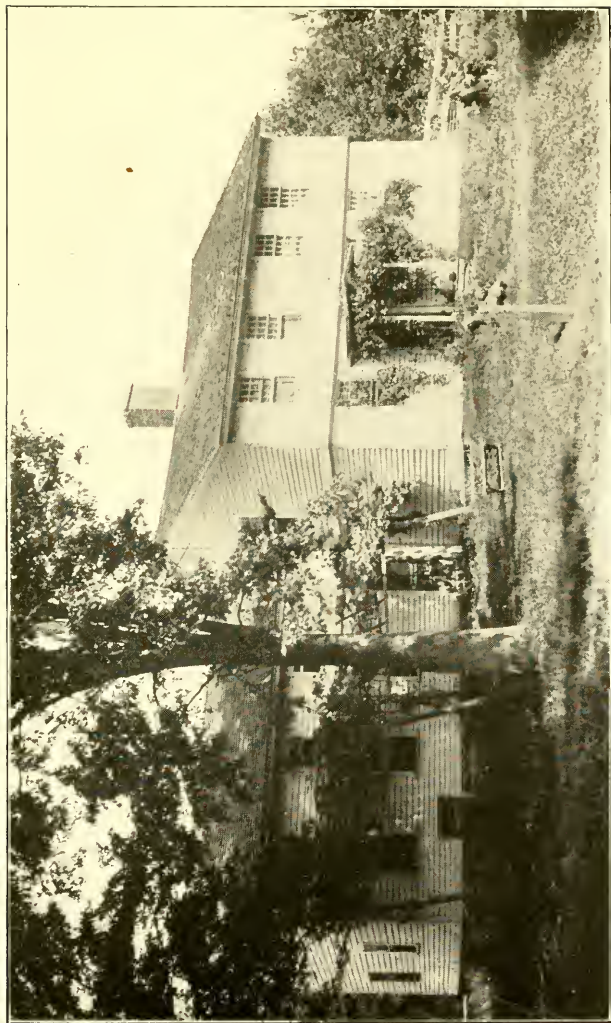
The Merwins of those early generations seemed always ready to settle in a new place, a trait not entirely unknown in those of later years.

Miles, the first, had several times taken the journey between Milford and Windsor, and at the time of his death, little Daniel, his grandson, a child of six years, and living near, had probably often heard stories of these journeys, which might have been through what was afterwards known as Durham.

No white man had settled there, and the spot was not much frequented by the Indians, though well-known to them as a hunting ground.

There was a cleared field on the farm now known as the Gaylord Newton Farm, which has always been called "The Old Field," as the only place in that neighborhood where the Indians cultivated corn.

Whether or not little Daniel heard of the place from his grandfather, he certainly heard about it, as he grew to manhood, for most of



HOME OF DEACON GAYLORD NEWTON  
Sixth generation, Durham, Conn.  
Seventh from Richard Platt



the settlers in the new town came from Milford.

The first house in Durham was built in 1699, and the number of settlers increased until a patent was granted to the Town of Durham, May 21, 1708. This original patent now hangs in the Town Library in Durham.

The inhabitants, though few in number, believed in the independence of the people, and held a town-meeting December 24, 1706.

At this town-meeting before there was a town, four of our ancestors were elected to office: Nathaniel Sutliff, Constable; Samuel Fairchild, Selectman; Joel Parmelee, Fence Viewer, and Robert Coe, Lister, or Assessor.

At the same meeting it was voted that they desired the town of Durham should be annexed to the County of New Haven.

The early name of this tract of land was Coginchaug, though spelled in many different ways. The old deed held by the Merwin family dated 1687 reads: "a piece of land in a place called Cogonshake;" and for the record, it is marked on the outside "a deed of Cockingcheg." This was the Indian name signifying Long Swamp.

In 1704, the name was changed to Durham by the Act of the General Assembly, though it was not then a town.

The main street was originally planned in the southern part, on a hill which is still known by the name of Meeting-house Hill, but before any building of importance was erected, it was changed to its present location, most of the land on this ridge between two valleys, now comprising the village, being then in the possession of the Talcott family of Hartford.

“Ye Worshipful Mr. John Talcott” was one of the first settlers in Hartford, having a house built for him in 1635 on the corner of Main and Talcott Streets, and moving into it with his family in 1636.

His son, Lieutenant Colonel John Talcott, our great, great, great, great-grandfather, was a famous fighter in the Indian wars, and had this Durham land granted to him for his services.

He was one of three men appointed to have charge of the Charter of the State granted by King Charles II, in 1662.

Roger Wolcott is authority for the statement that when the Charter was hidden in the oak October 1, 1687, this Lieut. Col. John Talcott secured it from the table, when the lights were extinguished, as he might lawfully do, having been appointed to keep it in charge. The Record reads :

“Oct. 9, 1662. The Pattent or charter was

this day publicly read in audience of ye free-men, and ye freemen made choice of Mr. Willys, Col. John Talcott and Lieut. John Allyn to take the Charter into their custody, in behalf of ye freemen."

Lieut. Col. John Talcott died in the year 1688, and his youngest son Hezekiah, then a little child two years old, inherited a part of the Durham land.

The second wife of Lieut. Col. John Talcott, and the mother of Hezekiah, was Mary Cook, possibly daughter of Major Aaron Cooke, Senior, whose will dated August, 1690, bequeaths to his "Grandson, Aaron Cooke, son of my son Aaron, a parcell of land being three hundred acres lyeing between Middletown and Wallingford, being in ye Colony of Connecticut, formerly granted to Major Nash of New Haven by ye general Corte, and soe by deed to me."

It is more probable that this Mary Cook, mother of Hezekiah Talcott, was the daughter of Jacob Cook who came as a child with his mother to this country in the ship Ann in 1623.

His father Francis, and his brother John, came in 1620 in the Mayflower, the mother and younger children coming three years later. John and Jacob had each a daughter named Mary, born at nearly the same time, the daughter of John marrying a man named Thompson, the



other Mary probably becoming the second wife of Colonel John Talcott, and mother of Hezekiah, whose daughter, Mary Talcott, married Miles Merwin in 1743, thus making all of the Merwin family of Durham, Mayflower Descendants.

John Talcott, though holding his land from the General Assembly, joined in purchasing it from the Indians also.

In the Records of the General Assembly is the following entry, dated May 13, 1703.

“This Assembly doth empower the guardian of Mr. Hezekiah Talcott to sell a convenient number of lotts out of the said Hezekiah’s land at the place called Cokinchange, to accommodate the inhabitants there with a convenient place for a town platt, according to the proportion due from the said Hezekiah, for settling the said towne.”

In the original plan of the town, dated 1704, which I have seen in the immense safe in the Capitol at Hartford, and of which I have a copy, the land marked as belonging to Hezekiah Talcott, extended the whole length of Main Street, from the old tavern, which was first kept by Samuel Weld, and later by John Swathel, to south of the green, a full mile in extent.

In the Town Patent granted by Governor Saltonstall, May 21, 1708, the name of Hezekiah

PLAN of DURHAM  
in October  
1703

FLADDAM

Wallingford Bounds

In this pond is Guilford Wallingford  
and Durham Corners.

Middletown

Mr. Richards's swamp  
begin. And south is  
Cello Talcott's

T. Swamp  
Swamp Farms

The highway running at the front of the Swamp farms

Cello  
upland  
upon  
this  
General  
ordered  
Town  
Durham  
Layed

The highway running through the farms

Mr. Steel's  
Farm

Tolcott's  
farms  
which  
Honorable  
Court  
the  
of  
to be  
out in

Mr. Sterling's  
upland

farms

Mr. Russell  
Swamp

Mr. Wood  
bridge

Johnson's farm  
granted for his services  
in the Pequot Wars  
now Joseph Seaward's

The end of Coginchauge  
Swamp

Guilford  
Bounds

Guilford  
Corner

Killingworth falterth  
short of Guilford  
not running so far  
from ye sea as they  
do, as is heerein  
demonstrated.

Killingworth  
Corner



Talcott is the first of the seven Patentees whose names are given.

The thirty-four men who were residing in Durham at that time, were called the Patentees or Proprietors, and I consider it an honor that I am descended from six of the thirty-four; Joel Parmelee, Samuel Fairchild, Nathaniel Sutliff, James Curtiss, Hezekiah Talcott and Robert Coe.

These Proprietors continued to hold their own business meetings distinct from town-meetings for many years, admitting others to their privileges by vote among themselves.

There is a deed dated Feb. 1st 1703-4 from "John Permele, husbandman, to my brother Joell Permelee, of all my right of a Part of a two-hundred acre farme that I bought of Abraham bradley of S<sup>d</sup> Guilford at a place commonly called Cauchinchag, neare Middletown, containing 65 acres more or less."

A part of the land belonging to Hezekiah Talcott was given without price, to encourage settlement in the new town, as was the custom throughout New England.

In May, 1701, land was distributed by lot in allotments of thirty acres each, to twenty-three different persons, among whom the following were our ancestors or relatives:

Joel Permele, John Permele, John Sutliff,

Nathaniel Sutliff, Samuel Camp, Joseph Coe, and others.

In the early Land Records, very many pages are filled with copies of deeds from Hezekiah Talcott, but not the very earliest, as he was not then of age.

March 28, 1707 there was recorded a deed from Hezekiah Tallcot and Eunice Tallcot of Hartford to James Wadsworth of Farmington, acknowledged before Joseph Tallcot, Justice of ye peace.

May 6, 1708, a deed of land to Saml. Camp, Senior, and on the same date, one to Benjamin Baldwin from Hezekiah Talcott.

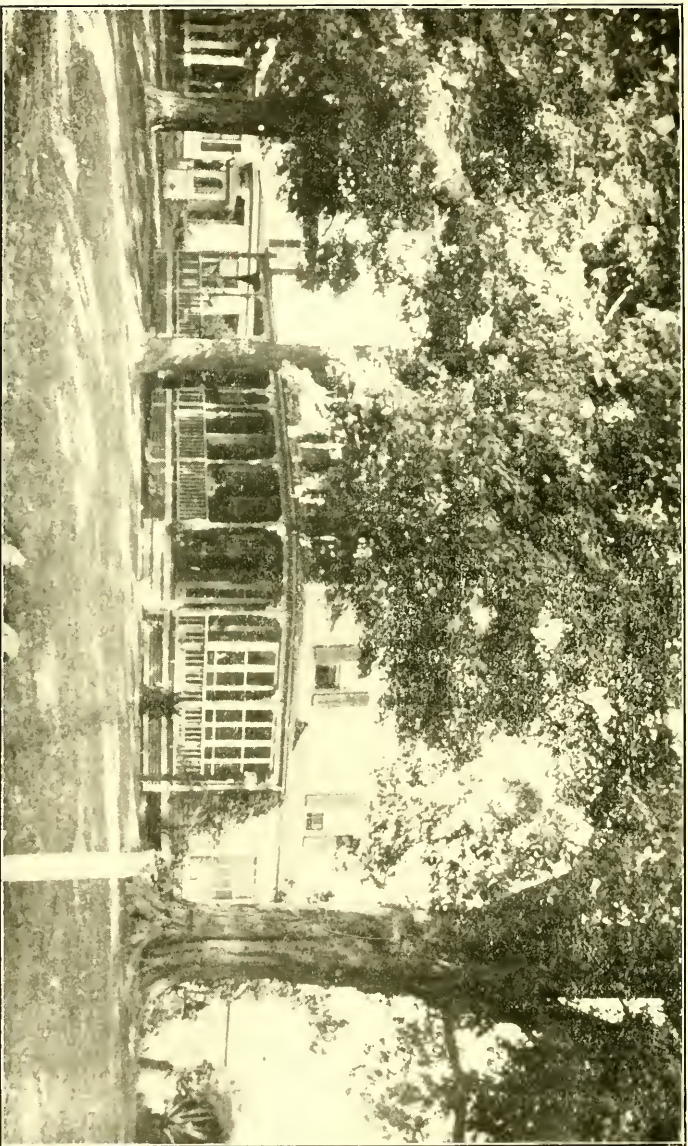
March 28, 1710-11, Joseph Talcot gave a deed of his share of 562 acres inherited from his father, Colonel John Tallcot, deceased, to his brother, Hezekiah Tallcot.

Hezekiah's home was near the place where now stands the house of Mrs. Mary Gatzmer.

In the year 1721, it was to this young town of Durham, that Daniel Merwin, of the third generation, with his wife, Sarah Botchford and their five little children removed, followed later by his cousin Mary Burwell and her husband, Abner Newton, and other families from Milford.

Both Merwin and Newton settled on the Main Street, Merwin purchasing the house which is





House occupied in succession by three generations, Daniel Merwin<sup>3</sup>, his son, Lieut. Miles Merwin<sup>4</sup>  
and grandson, Job Merwin<sup>5</sup>, Durham, Conn.

now occupied by William C. Hubbard, and Abner Newton purchasing the Mill-pond property, and several acres north of it with two houses, the places now owned by W. R. Atwell and Frank Barton.

Daniel Merwin had married, November 30, 1710, Sarah Botsford, Daughter of Elnathan Botsford. Their children were:

Ann,	Born November 20, 1712
Daniel,	“ September 15, 1714
Ann,	“ March 24, 1715-16
Sarah,	“ June 10, 1718
Miles,	“ November 29, 1719
D. Miles	“ March 27, 1721
Elizabeth	“ February 14, 1722-3

Daniel Merwin became prominent in the affairs of the new town, and is called Honorable Daniel Merwin in the records, a prefix not given in those early days without good reason.

He made large purchases of land, some extending beyond the bounds of Durham into Middletown, a part of which is now covered by the Middlefield Reservoir, and westward to the Wallingford bounds.

“ April 13, 1721, Daniel Merwin of Milford, purchased of Nathan Camp of Durham, a dwelling house, barn, and home-lott of six acres for £100. bounded eastwardly, westwardly, and northerly



by highway, and southwardly by Samuel Norton's home-lott."

This is the house owned by William Hubbard, and shows that the road running between William Scranton's and Herbert Southmayd's then extended through to Brick Lane, as it was laid out on the first plan of the Town.

Daniel Merwin, and his son Miles and grandson Job, each in succession with his family, lived and died in that house. It has been very much altered and improved since their time.

Nathan Camp, who was the original owner, was also our ancestor.

Dec. 5, 1721. John Camp, Jr., of Milford, sold to Daniel Merwin of Durham, 31 acres for £140.

Dec. 19, 1721. Robert Coe of Durham, sold to Daniel Merwin of Durham, ten acres west of the swamp, north of the Wallingford road for £40.

Sept. 10, 1722. Isaac Chauncey and Nathaniel Chauncey sold to Daniel Merwin 65 acres for £180.

One hundred acres of land purchased at this time by Daniel Merwin was a part of the tract given by the General Court to Major John Nash of New Haven, and sold by his heirs to Major Aaron Cook of Northampton, Mass. This original deed, dated October 27, 1687, and also





Graves in Durham Cemetery of Daniel Merwin 3, his son, Lieut. Miles Merwin 4,  
and grandson, Miles Merwin 5.

the original deed to Daniel Merwin, are now in the possession of the children of Miles Talcott Merwin in Durham.

It was long before the boundary line was exactly settled between Middletown and Durham, and Daniel Merwin had much to do in its final location, the papers concerning it still remaining in the family.

In 1733, the town voted that it was needful to build a new meeting-house, and Sergeant Daniel Merwin and others were appointed "to consider the height, length, breadth and demensions of the meeting-house, and discourse the best and most able carpenters."

This second meeting-house was raised in May, 1736, and was still unfinished in November, when a tax of twelve pence per pound was laid to finish it, with Daniel Merwin, Collector.

When the town voted to build this meeting-house, in 1733, the appropriation for a "skoole" was reduced from £6 to £3 for the year.

Daniel Merwin died April 17, 1766, in his 79th year. His wife, Sarah Botchford, died September 23, 1764, eighty-two years old, and their grave-stones, large, handsome brown sandstone, are on the summit of the hill in the old burying ground with those of their children and grandchildren.

Their eldest son, Daniel, was born in Milford, and was a boy eight years old when the family moved to Durham.

He married December 20, 1738, Elizabeth Wells of Haddam. Their little son James was born October 19, and ten days later, Oct. 29 the young wife died.

May 11, 1741, Daniel was married again to Mary Burrett and by her he had seven children, Elizabeth, Elinathan, Sarah, Daniel, Ann, Israel and Hannah.

This Daniel Merwin, Junr. was one of the subscribers to "The Book Company of Durham," which was formed October 30, 1733, and said to be the first Public Library in the Colony or State of Connecticut.

He died May 15, 1758.

Slavery was in existence in Durham then, as it was in all the towns of the state, and his widow sold at least one slave, in settling his estate the year after his death.

The bill of sale I copy from Fowler's History of Durham.

Durham, June 19, 1759.

Know all men by this present: that I the subscriber, widow Mary Merwin, Executrix of the last will of Daniel Merwin, Junr., do sell, alien and convey and confirm unto Elnathan Chauncey of Durham in the County of New Haven, to him and his heirs, one certain negro man, about 30 years of age named Ginne, for and during his natural life, it being for the consideration of 13 pounds already received to my full satisfaction, in witness hereof I set my hand and seal, this 19th of June in the year of our Lord 1759.

In presence of

Mary Merwin.

James Tibbals,

Abner Newton.

Miles Merwin of the fourth generation, second son of Miles and Sarah Botsford, born Nov. 29, 1719, was a child not quite three years old at the time of the removal from Milford to Durham.

The explanation of the name given to the third son, a baby one year old at this time, of D. Miles, seems to be the fear that either Daniel or Miles might die, as so large a number of little children did die in the early settlement of the country, and the desire that the little one might continue the name of either.

Miles was a young man of twenty when the first military company was organized in Durham in 1739.

James Wadsworth, born in Farmington, but one of the very early settlers in Durham, was made Colonel of the Tenth Connecticut Regiment of Militia, and the cartridge-box and accoutrements now in the possession of the heirs of Miles Talcott Merwin, marked "*Ind Com'y. Xth Reg.*" seem proof that it was the one carried by Lieutenant Miles Merwin, under the command of Colonel Wadsworth.

His sword also is treasured by us, his descendants, as being undoubtedly the one carried by him in the French and Indian War, and also in the War of the Revolution.

In the Colonial Records of Connecticut, on page 70, Vol. II, is the record of an Act of the General Assembly in Hartford, May, 1757:

“This Assembly do establish Mr. Miles Merwin to be cornet of the troop of horse in the Tenth Regiment in this Colony”, the cornet of a company being the officer who carried the standard in a company or troop of horse, the second officer in the Company.

Seven years later, May 1764, page 255, Vol. XIII of the Colonial Records reads:

“This Assembly do establish Mr. Miles Merwin to be Lieutenant of the Troop of Horse in the Tenth Regiment in This Colony.”

This Tenth Regiment of Connecticut Militia continued its organization during the War of the Revolution, and was frequently in service. It was at the Danbury fight in April, 1777, reinforced Washington on the Hudson, and served faithfully until peace was declared.

Lieut. Miles Merwin had married when a young man of twenty-four, his bride being only twenty.

The record of their marriage reads: “Miles Merwin and Mary Talcott were Joyned in Marriage June 30, 1743.”

She was the daughter of Hezekiah Talcott, (b. Feb. 24, 1685-6; d. Feb. 13, 1764), who was the proprietor of the best part of Durham, and of his wife, Jemima Parsons, grand-daugh-



ter of Cornet Joseph Parsons, one of the founders of Springfield, Mass.

The great, carved, oaken chest, mentioned on another page as being an heir-loom in the family of Miles Talcott Merwin, bears the initials *I. P.*, and was brought from England by our ancestor, Cornet Joseph Parsons.

At the time of Mary Talcott's marriage to Miles Merwin, her uncle, Joseph Talcott, had been Governor of Connecticut for seventeen years, and all of the Talcott family had been prominent in the history of the New England Colonies, from their earliest settlement.

Lieut. Miles Merwin (1719-1786) and Mary Talcott, his wife, had eight children:

Miles, born May 1, 1744

Daniel, " May 30, 1746.

Job, " Feb. 16, 1749.

Noah, " Nov. 9, 1752.

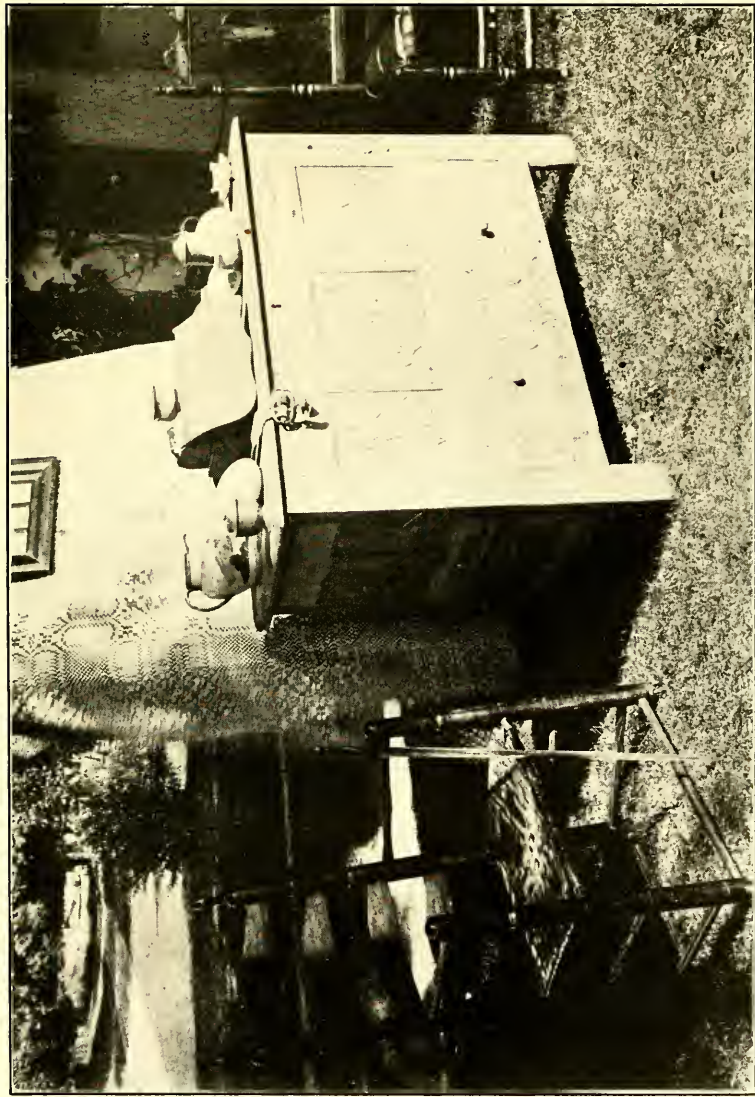
Mary, " Nov. 24, 1755.

Rhoda, " Aug. 19, 1757.

Sarah, " June 7, 1760.

David, " Feb. 10, 1763.

Job Merwin, who inherited the homestead, died in 1824, leaving his widow with a very good property. The funeral expenses were such



CHEST OF CORNET JOSEPH PARSONS, 1636.

Sword and cartridge-box carried by Lieut. Miles Merwin in the French and Indian War.

Chair on the right, Phebe Camp Merwin's in 1794.

Chair on the left Miles Merwin's in 1750.



as were usual in those days, and I copy them from the old Merwin account book:

To James Clark for digging grave .	\$1.25
To Charles Camp for making coffin .	2.75
To John Loveland for tolling the bell	.50
To Olive Norton for making shroud	.37½
	<hr/>
	\$4.87½

A shroud was always used for the dead, made of a soft white cloth manufactured for that purpose, and called "shrouding." No one was ever "laid out," to use the old-fashioned expression, in clothing worn by them in life.

The use of a hearse for the coffin and covered carriages for the family was unknown at that time. Coffins were placed upon a long wagon, and covered with a pall.

\* \* \* \* \*

Lieutenant Miles Merwin died December 12, 1786, sixty-seven years old. His wife, Mary Talcott, died January 18, 1793. Their graves are close by those of his father and mother, in the old cemetery in Durham.

The inscription on his grave-stone is :

"In memory of Lieut. Miles Merwin,  
who having served his generation according to the will of God through a

useful life, finished his course on earth  
Dec. 12, 1786, in the 66th year of his  
age."

"The sweet remembrance of the just,  
Like a green root, revives and bears,  
When dying nature sleeps in dust."

Miles, their eldest son, born May 1, 1744, the  
fifth generation in this country, married Mary  
Parmelee, November 4, 1767.

Her grandfather, Joel Parmelee, (1714-1788),  
was one of the first settlers of Durham, his  
name being on the petition for the town plat  
in 1699.

His grandfather, John Parmelee, was one of  
the first settlers in Guilford, coming there in the  
company of Rev. Henry Whitfield, who built  
the Old Stone House.

John Parmelee's home lot in Guilford in  
1636 was the land on which the First Congrega-  
tional Church and the adjacent buildings now  
stand.

"John Permeley", who came from England  
with Whitfield was one of the twenty-five who  
signed the Covenant on board the ship, June 1,  
1639, when they had been on the ocean about ten  
days.

His father, Maurice Parmele, fled to Holland  
from the persecution in England about 1567.

His great-grandson, our great-great-grand-

father, Joel Parmelee, was a private in the War of the Revolution in 1776, in Captain Hand's Co. Colonel Talcott's Regiment. Later in the same year he was Corporal in Captain Steven's Co. with John Parmelee, probably his son, serving as drummer.

In 1779 his name appears as Sergeant enlisted for the War in the Sixth Connecticut Line Regiment under Captain Bezaleel Bristol.

The family home of Miles and Mary Parmelee Merwin was the house at the head of Brick Lane, known as the Miles Merwin house, which has always since been in the family, and is now owned by his great-grandson, Edward Payson Merwin.

It is supposed that this Miles, the fifth generation, built this house, and planted the noble line of maples in front of it.

Their eleven children were:

Jerusha,	born	August 27,	1768,
Eunice,	"	April 27,	1770,
Miles,	"	February 2,	1772,
Olive,	"	December 12,	1773,
Ruth,	"	June 25,	1776,
Nancy,	"	October 25,	1778,
Rhoda,	"	November 11,	1780,
Jesse,	"	December 23,	1782,
Mary,	"	May, 14,	1785,
Hannah,	"	August 31,	1787,
Noah,	"	November 9,	1789,

Those eight daughters followed the example of the worthy woman in the Book of Proverbs:

“She layeth her hands to the distaff,  
and her hands hold the spindle; she  
maketh linen garments and selleth  
them, and delivereth girdles unto the  
merchant.”

The great clumsy loom upon which every year they wove hundreds of yards of cloth, is still standing, a curiosity to the children of to-day.

The old account-book kept the record of varieties of weaving; Curtain-cloth, striped cloth, striped linen, tow-cloth, plain cloth, bed-tick, worsted, &c. The “setting-out” of eight brides must have involved a vast amount of spinning and weaving, not to mention the millions of stitches of hand sewing.

Most of the Merwin men lived to a good old age, but this Miles and Mary Parmelee, his wife, both died under fifty. His death was July 31, 1793, and hers June 6, 1795.

It was usual to carve an account of the virtues of our ancestors upon their headstones, and some of these epitaphs may be undeserved, but this great-grandmother of ours was worthy of the words above her:

“Prudence and grace adorned her mind:  
Her lips were peace, her carriage love:  
Patient and meek, to Heaven resigned,  
She died in faith of joys above.”



ELLEN MARIA NEWTON



HENRY GLEASON NEWTON

Seventh generation in the line of their father  
Eighth in the line of their mother





Miles had died two years earlier, and the inscription upon his grave is:

“When thou, my Jesus and my God  
Shall come in majesty divine,  
Raised from the dust in glory bright,  
With joy and beauty shall I shine.”

Their eldest son, Miles of the sixth generation, our grand-father, is well remembered by all of his grand-children. He was born February 2, 1772, married November 27, 1794, died July 31, 1859; 87 years old.

His first wife, the mother of all his children, was Phebe Camp, a descendant of Nicholas Camp, one of the first settlers of Milford, and also of Thomas Welles, who was Governor of Connecticut in the years 1655 and 1659, being Governor, Deputy Governor or Treasurer of the Colonial Government for many years until his death in office.

The nine children of Miles Merwin and Phebe Camp his wife, were:

Miles, born Thursday, September 7, 1795

Alva, born Wednesday, October 12, 1796

Phebe Camp, born Saturday, March 31, 1798

Ruth, born Wednesday, December 11, 1799

Mary Parmelee, born Thursday, Nov. 12, 1801

Alva, born Saturday, October 29, 1803

Rhoda, born Wednesday, September 11, 1805

Noah, born Wednesday, June 24, 1807

Nancy Mariah, born Thursday, March 29, 1810.

The Camp family were in comfortable circumstances, and Phebe's wedding dress, in 1794, was very handsome.

It was a heavy brocaded green silk damask, made with a short waist and long skirt.

When the third church was built, in 1835, these long straight breadths of her wedding dress were dyed red, and given by her to cover the cushion of the pulpit. It was burned with the building November 28, 1844. Some treasured bits of both red and green remain to us, and a few pieces of her furniture and silver. As was the custom in New England at that time, her silver spoons, still firm and good, were engraved with the initials of both husband and wife, M. P. M., the M for Miles and P for Phebe Merwin.

She had some property of her own, a part of which was a rather valuable tract of land on what was called West Mountain. This was sold after her death and the proceeds divided among her six living daughters.

Of her nine children, all except the first daughter, Alva, lived to a good age, all married, and all except Phebe, whose married life was less than two years, had children.

The mother died December 1, 1812, when little Nancy was only two and a half years old.

Miles, the eldest son, the seventh generation,

and Noah, the younger, settled on farms close by their father's and lived and died there. Miles enlisted in the War of 1812 serving under Commander Medad Hotchkiss and Commander John Butler.

He was stationed at New London, but did not serve out of the State.

The daughters married and settled, some nearer, some farther from the old home, but none so far away that they did not occasionally return for the Thanksgiving gatherings.

Each of the six daughters had a bountiful "setting-out" of linen and wool, raised on the farm, spun on the great wheel and little wheel, and woven on the loom in the red painted building which they called "the shop" and which stood a few feet east of the house.

There were windows on every side of the shop, for it was all in one room, and it was sunny and warm and bright on cold winter days when the six sisters were at work there together, for no one of the six married until the youngest was fourteen years old.

Each could spin and weave her own linen, although for preparing the table linen, the intricate and mysterious patterns of "huck-a-buck and bird's eye" and "M's and N's," they required the skill of a specialist from another family.

Every separate article was marked in blue linen cross-stitch with the initials of its owner, and laid away in her particular chest to wait for the marriage which was sure to come.

Each daughter knit a pillow case full of stockings, of linen thread, of woollen yarn, and some of cotton also, every one marked carefully with the blue initials, and in some cases they lasted until earthly apparel was no longer needed.

They had nice dresses for best, of silk, and of soft French chintz, and as the wearing of a cap was then a badge and token of the married state, as a wedding ring was among Episcopalians, and is now among even orthodox Congregationalists, each for her marriage provided a handsome cap of real lace, and wore it thereafter on all ceremonious occasions. The quaint, old family daguerreotypes which we prize so highly, show us the fashion of them, but the vandal hands of their children long ago destroyed the dear old caps, to obtain the lace for other uses.

With all the work that was done in the red shop, the sisters found time for reading and study and embroidery on lace and muslin, of which some fine specimens have been inherited by their children.

The youngest one, Nancy Maria, my mother, was remarkable for the number of verses she could repeat in the Sunday-school.



PHEBE CAMP WHITE

RUTH LEE

MARY PARMELEE NOBLE

ALVA BALDWIN

NANCY MARIA NEWTON

RHODA SAGE

Daughters of Miles Merwin (1772-1859)



This Sunday School was first organized in, or a little before, the year 1818, when Nancy was eight years old, and her elder sister, Phebe, was chosen the first female Superintendent.

The lessons were simply committing to memory Bible verses, hymns, and answers in the Assembly's Shorter Catechism.

Nancy laid her Bible open before her on the bench of her spinning-wheel, and in the ceaseless stepping to and fro as she drew out and twisted the thread, she learned verse after verse and chapter after chapter, until she could repeat every word of the Book of Isaiah, as well as many other parts of the Bible.

In the early days of this Sabbath-School, it was continued through the summer, then closed for the winter in October, with a public meeting, a long, solemn address, usually by one of the deacons, written, and read from the manuscript, and a report of the state of the school, and the number of verses that had been recited in the six months.

In October, 1824, the report was, "22,192 verses of scripture, 2335 answers of catechism, 6,572 verses of hymns, making a total of 31,099, and this exclusive of the adult classes."

Nancy, at this time, was the only one of the sisters young enough to be considered a child.

Most of them married young, quite as soon as



the linen chests were filled; and at the time of marriage, the father added a gift of a sum of money, so that each daughter furnished the house which her husband provided.

Rose blankets and imported counterpanes were purchased for best, but for ordinary use, the home-made linen and wool lasted for many years.

These six sisters, although sometimes separated after marriage in different towns and states, always cherished the strongest affection for each other to the end of life.

A few only of their many affectionate letters to each other have been preserved. There is one written by Phebe to Nancy after the death and burial of her much loved husband, Seymour White. They had lived together only a year and a half, in the house now owned and occupied by George Francis. After his death, she returned to her father's house, remaining there until she received a most urgent call to fill the position of matron to the American Asylum for the Deaf in Hartford.

How acceptably and lovingly she performed the duties of that office, can best be told by an extract from an article published in the year 1885 by one who had been many years before under her care.

“In the heart of every graduate of the Asylum

in the forty years in which Mrs. Phebe C. White filled the post of matron, she occupied a warm corner.

“She was a second mother to all of them—some of them knew no other—and around her name clusters many a tender memory of their younger days, when they were far from home. She was emphatically a woman among a thousand; yea, among ten thousand.

“I last saw her a few years ago, in Central New York, where she was visiting, and it was a real pleasure to look upon her beaming, motherly face, and clasp her honest hand after years of absence.

“She long ago vacated the office she had so truly filled, and only recently passed, at a ripe old age, to the world beyond.”

A strong family feeling continued through the next, the present generation. There were thirty-five cousins, though not all living at one time. Twenty-eight of them lived to manhood and womanhood, and as every family finally settled within twenty miles of the ancestral home in Durham, visits were often exchanged.

A few weeks before grandfather's death, in the summer of 1859, the family assembled at the old home, and thirteen great-grand children then living, sat together around one table.

He walked into the room, and looking upon

them with deep emotion said, "This is a most interesting sight; be good children all of you, live in peace, and prepare to meet me in Heaven."

There were at this time, in 1859, fifteen sons and daughters, counting also their wives and husbands, thirty-two grand children and thirteen great-grand children.

There were four generations of Miles Merwins then living in Durham in a radius of half a mile.

They were distinguished as Miles Senior, Miles Junior, Miles Talcott, and Miles Tyler Merwin, the last named being a child of ten years, one of the great-grand children above mentioned.

Of the twenty-eight cousins who were living at the same time, too many died in their youth, Frances, Marietta, Elizabeth and Henry Sage following each other in quick succession. Lyman Baldwin, Charlotte Ellen Noble, a young girl, always bright and cheerful, helpful to her friends, sparing no pains or trouble to make others happy, Charles Gilbert Lee, wasting his young life in Andersonville prison, Ellen Maria Newton, useful everywhere, organist in the choir, a teacher in Sunday School, a great favorite with all her friends, and filling the place of a mother in her own home, Henry Merwin Baldwin, a soldier in the Civil War, severely

wounded in the battle of Olustee, Florida, Caroline and Phebe, daughters of Miles Merwin, Mary Noble Arnold; "all these died in faith" many years ago.

Their numbers are now rapidly diminishing. The earliest born and the latest born passed away in 1904, Miles Talcott Merwin at the age of eighty-two and Charles Baldwin Merwin, October 31, at fifty-six.

Charles Baldwin Merwin had long been in failing health, and made his will a few years ago, remembering all his near relatives, and providing that after their decease, a large part of the property he had accumulated should benefit the church and schools in his native town of Durham.

He also bequeathed, besides the gifts to church and Sunday School and High School, three thousand dollars for establishing and replenishing a library in connection with the school, and a fund the income of which was to be expended in the care of the cemeteries of Durham.

Miles Talcott Merwin was the first of the line to be distinguished by a middle name, for the reason that in his early life, the three generations of Miles Merwins were still living and all residents of Durham. He was still strong and courageous at the age of eighty. Though bent with rheumatism, and often suffering from

other disabilities, he continued managing his large farm himself, driving in storms of winter and heat of summer ten miles to market his produce, and seemed expecting to continue doing the same for years to come until the accident of a fall in the barn caused the illness which resulted in his death after two weeks of suffering, August 29, 1904.

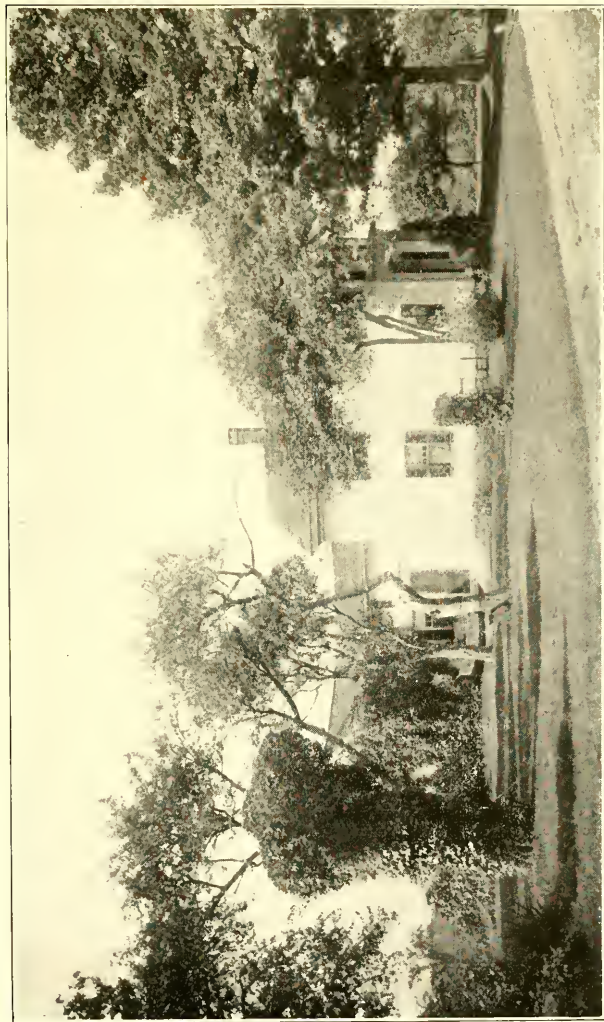
He had been useful through all his long life in the affairs of town, of church and of Sunday School, his place there never being vacant except by reason of illness.

For the last twenty years of his life he had been annually elected President of the Sunday School Association, taking charge of all its business meetings.

He was much interested in the work of the Historical Society, which was formed in Durham at the Bi-Centennial of the town in 1899, and had prepared some interesting papers for the meetings.

He was the last "tything-man" elected by the First Church of Durham, and might be said to have died in office, although his election was many years ago.

A tything-man was an officer elected annually in the days of our grandfathers to preserve order in the meeting-house during services, as well as to make complaint of any disorderly conduct or travel on the Sabbath.



HOME OF MILES TALCOTT MERWIN, DURHAM, CONN.



Miles Talcott Merwin felt a great interest in the history of the family.

All the descendants of our grandfather were invited to a re-union at his house in August, 1903, the plans having been made and invitations written and sent by Henry G. Newton and wife of New Haven.

The day appointed proved to be very stormy, but thirty-seven gathered there.

They had a business meeting, forming the Merwin Association, electing Miles Talcott Merwin President, Mary E. Van Size, Vice-President, and Caroline Gaylord Newton, Secretary.

Speeches were made by those accepting these offices, a historical paper was read by the Secretary, and many reminiscences were given by the elder ones among the cousins.

A flash-light photograph was taken of the group, but because of the rain, some had already left the circle.

Plans were laid for yearly meetings of the Association, but illness and death have prevented their meeting again.

Mrs. Mary E. Van Size, the eldest of the remaining cousins, then in her eighty-second year, with mind and memory and bodily health still unimpaired, was at that time unanimously elected Vice-President of the Merwin Association, and in response made an appropriate



speech, telling some stories of her childhood days when her home was near grandfather's house.

She spoke of the Thanksgiving Days when all the descendants came together without exception; of the long table in the East room, the striped hempen and woolen carpet which covered the floor; the beautiful pink china, and the cut glass brought out from the glass fronted buffet which is still in the corner of the west parlor.

This pink china was purchased by the step-mother, Miles' second wife, Abigail Seward.

Mrs. Van Size remembered the wonderful journey that she made with her father and mother and little brother, Lyman, in the year 1834.

They put beds, bedding and provisions into a long wagon, drawn by two horses, and left Durham on a Friday morning, stopping for a lodging on the way wherever the darkness happened to find them; resting over the Sabbath after two days' journey, according to the commandment, and on Monday proceeding again on their way.

They saw many strange things, among others, that astonishing sight, the new railroad and train running from Albany to Schenectady. They stayed a short time with relatives in

Albany, then drove on, reaching their journey's end at Sherburne, New York.

The family afterwards returned to Connecticut, and settled in Cromwell.

Others among the cousins added to the interest of the re-union by their recollections of the old days.

Henry S. Merwin, Mrs. Wealthy Ives, wife of John Ives, of Meriden, Thomas Noble, William H. Lee, Henry G. Newton and others gave interesting reminiscences.

Letters were read from absent ones, and a memorial book was prepared in which all present registered their names.

Those present were:

Miles Talcott Merwin,  
Henry Sage Merwin,  
Lucy Stowe Merwin,  
George Barber Merwin,  
Ella Elizabeth Merwin,  
Emily Foote Merwin,  
Agnes Dickerman Merwin,  
Asaph Merriam Merwin,  
Harry M. Merwin,  
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Van Size,  
Thomas Noble,  
Mrs. Thomas Noble,  
(Elizabeth Baldwin Noble,)  
Miss Sarah Ellen Noble,  
Thomas Henry Noble,  
John Ives,  
Mrs. John Ives, (Wealthy Merwin Ives),

Mrs. James P. Platt, (Harriett Ives Platt),  
Miss Majorie Platt,  
William Henry Lee,  
Mrs. William H. Lee, (Mary Griswold Lee),  
Charles Sherman Lee,  
William Randall Lee,  
Mrs. Wm. Randall Lee, (Lucy Foote Lee),  
Albert Clifford Lee,  
Miss Hotchkiss (later Mrs. A. C. Lee),  
Earle Baldwin,  
Mrs. Earle Baldwin, (Ruth Lee Baldwin),  
Dorothy Baldwin,  
Miss Martha Wetmore,  
Leland Howard Ives,  
Henry Huntington Newton,  
Mrs. H. H. Newton, (Caroline Gaylord  
Newton),  
Henry Gleason Newton,  
Mrs. H. G. Newton, (Sarah Baldwin Newton)  
Miss Caroline Newton Stevens.

Letters were read from:

Mrs. N. E. Stark, (Mary Lee Stark,  
Mrs. Ellen M. Lee Bristol and family,  
General Edward Merwin Lee,  
Miles Tyler Merwin,  
Edward Payson Merwin,  
Charles Baldwin Merwin,

The exercises closed with the singing of Auld  
Lang Syne, and Praise God from Whom All  
Blessings Flow.

### FIRST GENERATION.

Miles Merwin,<sup>1</sup> born about 1623, died April 23, 1697.

He married Elizabeth Baldwin, widow of Theophilus Canfield.

Their children were:

### SECOND GENERATION.

Elizabeth,

John, born 1650,

Abigail, born 1652,

Thomas, born 1654,

Samuel, born August 21, 1656,

Miles<sup>2</sup>, born December 14, 1658,

Daniel, born, June 30, 1661.

The mother died July 10, 1664.

Miles married again Sarah Platt, widow of Thomas Beach.

Their children were:

Martha and Maria, born January 23 1666.

Hannah, born November 15, 1667.

Deborah and Daniel, born April 24, 1670.

The mother died April 24, 1670.

Miles married again Sarah, widow of Daniel Scofield, by whom he had no children.

Miles Merwin<sup>2</sup>, born December 14, 1658,  
died \* \* \*

He married Hannah Wilmot, widow of Samuel Miles, September 26, 1681.

Their children were:

THIRD GENERATION.

Elizabeth<sup>3</sup>, born January 10, 1683,

Miles<sup>3</sup>,

Daniel<sup>3</sup>, 1688.

Daniel Merwin, born 1688, died April 11, 1766, married Sarah Botchford November 30, 1710.

Their children were:

FOURTH GENERATION.

Ann, born November 30, 1712,

Daniel, born September 15, 1714,

Ann, born March 24, 1715-16,

Sarah, born June 10, 1718,

<sup>4</sup>Miles, born November 29, 1719,

D. Miles, born March 27, 1721,

Elizabeth, born February 14, 1722-23.

Lieutenant <sup>4</sup>Miles Merwin, born November 29, 1719, married Mary Talcott June 30, 1743, and died December 12, 1786.

Their children were:

FIFTH GENERATION.

<sup>5</sup>Miles, born May 1, 1744,

Daniel, born May 30, 1746,

Job, born February 16, 1749,

Noah, born November 9, 1752,

Mary, born May 24, 1755,

Rhoda, born August 19, 1757,

Sarah, born June 7, 1760,

David, born June 7, 1760,

David, born February 10, 1763.

Miles Merwin<sup>5</sup>, born May 1, 1744, died July 31, 1793. He married Mary Parmelee November 4, 1767.

Their children were:

#### SIXTH GENERATION.

Jerusha,	born August 27, 1768.
Eunice,	“ April 27, 1770.
Miles,	“ February 2, 1772.
Olive,	“ December 12, 1773.
Ruth,	“ June 25, 1776.
Nancy,	“ October 25, 1778.
Rhoda,	“ November 11, 1780.
Jesse,	“ December 23, 1782.
Mary,	“ May 14, 1785.
Hannah,	“ August 31, 1787.
Noah,	“ November 9, 1789.

Miles Merwin<sup>6</sup>, born February 2, 1772, died July 31, 1859. He married November 27, 1794, Phebe Camp.

Their children were: (recorded in the handwriting of our grandfather in the Family Bible):

#### SEVENTH GENERATION.

Miles<sup>7</sup>, born September 7, 1795, Thursday,  
Alva, born October 12, 1796, Wednesday,  
Phebe Camp, born March 31, 1798, Saturday,  
Ruth, born December 11, 1799, Wednesday,  
Mary Parmelee, born November 12, 1801,  
Thursday,

Alva, born October 29, 1803, Saturday,  
Rhoda, born September 11, 1805, Wednesday,  
Noah, born June 24, 1807, Wednesday,  
Nancy Mariah, born March 29, 1810, Thursday.

OUR ANCESTOR'S WHOSE NAMES ARE ON THE  
MEMORIAL BRIDGE.

Reference has been made to the Memorial Bridge in Milford.

Many of the old New England families are descendants of those whose names are upon that bridge.

I count among my ancestors fourteen of those names, seven in the Merwin line, and seven in the Newton line; in some cases, by the inter-marriage of families, having the same by both father and mother.

I take these numbers as corresponding to those in *Ye Story of ye Memorial, as told by Nathan C. Pond*.

No. 9. *Thomas Buckingham,*  
Obit 1657,  
*Hannah, his wife.*

Their daughter Hannah married Thomas Welch; their daughter Sarah married Captain Samuel Newton, son of Rev. Roger Newton; their son, Abner Newton, my great-great-grandfather, married Mary Burwell, and settled in Durham; their son Burnell married Eunice Johnson; their son Abner married Abigail Fairchild; their son Gaylord married Nancy Merwin, my mother.

No. 10. *Deacon Richard Platt,*  
Obit 1684,  
*Mary, his wife.*

Their daughter, Sarah Platt, married Miles Merwin; their daughter Deborah married Sam-



*Gaylord Newton*





uel Burwell; their daughter, Mary Burwell, married Abner Newton, as above.

No. 13. *John Burwell,*  
Obit 1649,  
*Alice, his wife.*

These are the father and mother of the Samuel Burwell in the previous paragraph.

No. 15 *Joseph Baldwin.*  
Obit 1690.  
*Hannah, his wife.*

Their son Johnathan married Thankful Strong; their son, Ezra Strong, married Ruth Curtis; their daughter, Phebe Curtis, married Elah Camp; their daughter, Phebe Camp, married Miles Merwin, my grandfather.

No. 16. *Timothy Baldwin,*  
Obit 1664.  
*Mary, his wife.*

Their daughter, Hannah Baldwin, married Elnathan Botsford; their daughter Sarah, married Daniel Merwin, and settled in Durham.

No. 19. *Miles Merwin.*  
Obit 1697,  
*Sarah, his wife.*

All of the name in Milford and Durham descend from him, and his tombstone is the only one known to be that of an early settler, in the Milford cemetery. It has been engraved and published in the book "Old Tomb-stones of Milford." (See illustration on a previous page.)

His first wife was Elizabeth Baldwin, the second Sarah Platt. I am a descendant of both wives, on my mother's side from Miles, the son of Elizabeth, and on my father's side from Deborah, daughter of Sarah Platt, and Miles Merwin; the 7th generation by my father, and 8th by my mother.

No. 20. *Thomas Welch,*  
Obit 1681,  
*Hannah, his wife.*

Their daughter, Sarah, married Captain Samuel Newton; their son, Abner Newton, married Mary Burwell, as above.

No. 22. *Nicholas Camp,*  
*Sarah, his wife.*

Their son, Joseph Camp, married Hannah Rogers, daughter of Eleazer Rogers and Elizabeth Knowles; their son Nathan married Rhoda Parsons, daughter of Samuel Parsons, and grand-daughter of Cornet Joseph Parsons; their daughter Rhoda married Joel Parmelee; their daughter Mary married Miles Merwin, my great-grandfather.

Also a son of Nathan Camp and Rhoda Parsons, Elah Camp, married Phebe Baldwin; their daughter, Phebe Camp, married Miles Merwin, my grandfather.

No. 23. *John Stream*

Obit 1685

*Martha Beard, his wife.*

Sarah Beard, daughter of Martha Beard by her first husband, was the wife of Nicholas Camp, number 22.

No. 24. *Thomas Ford*

*Elizabeth, his wife.*

Their daughter, Abigail Ford, married Elder John Strong; their daughter Thankful married Johnathan Baldwin, the son of Joseph Baldwin, as before mentioned.

No. 25. *Sarg't. Thomas Campfield*

Obit 1689

*Phebe Crane, his wife.*

Their son, Thomas Campfield, born October 14, 1654, married Rebecca Adkinson; their daughter, Phebe Campfield, married John Camp; their daughter Phebe married Samuel Fairchild; their son, Elisha Fairchild, married Abigail Crowell; their daughter Abigail Fairchild married Abner Newton, my grandfather.

No. 26. *Henry Botsford,*  
Obit 1686,  
*Elizabeth, his wife.*

They had five daughters, but only one son, Elnathan, born in Milford in 1641. Elnathan Botsford married Hannah Baldwin; their daughter Sarah married Daniel Merwin and settled in Durham.

No. 28. *Joseph Peck,*  
Obit 1701,  
*Alice, his wife.*

This Alice, before her marriage to Peck, was the widow of John Burwell, grandmother of Mary Burwell, wife of Abner Newton.

No. 29. *John Smith,*  
Obit 1684  
*Grace, his wife.*

This Grace Smith was Grace Hawley, daughter of Joseph Hawley, the ancestor of Governor and Senator Joseph Hawley.

Their daughter, Mehitabel Smith, married Edward Camp; their son, Joseph Camp, married Phebe Canfield; their daughter, Phebe Camp, married Samuel Fairchild; his son Elisha Fairchild, married Abigail Crowell; their daughter Abigail married Abner Newton, my grandfather.

Besides these whose names are on the bridge, there are many others whom we remember as our historic ancestors, those who made the New England wilderness to blossom as the rose, preparing homes and churches and schools and colleges for us, their children.

Among the ancestors of the present Merwin family are: John Birdsey, Matthew Mitchell, Robert Coe, Joseph Hawley, Timothy, Joseph and Richard Baldwin, Joseph Andrews, Nicholas Camp, Joseph Judson, John Curtis, Henry Woodward, Captain John Taylor, Thomas Bliss, John Rogers, Thomas Ford, Cornet Joseph Parsons, Alexander Knowles, John Kirby, John Parmelee of Guilford, Lieutenant Colonel John Talcott of Hartford, Thomas Welles, for many years Governor, Deputy Governor and Treasurer of Connecticut, and others whose names are well known and honored.

*Letter of John Coe, son of Robert Coe, to Mary Hawley Coe, his wife.*

We are their descendants in the Sixth Generation.

“Westfield, August 23d, 1708.

My Dear Wife:—

This comes to bring my hearty love and affection to you, and to tell you of my earnest desire to embrace you in the arms of love hoping they may find you and ours in health.

I have been very well ever since I left you for which I pray God. The post from Albany last week brings news that the enemy disagree and french indians are turned back, the scouts from Westfield have not yet discovered the army we look for a post from Albany to-morrow after which we are in great hopes of being drawn off or the greater part of us.

I am just now a going to Northampton to wait on our governor which makes me in so much haste. So I remain till death your loving husband.

John Coe.

Our soldiers here are all well.”

The address is to “Mary Coe, Living at Stratford.”

This letter was written by my great-great-great-great-grandfather, at this time a man fifty

years old, to his wife, while he was serving against the French and Indians. Deerfield had been destroyed for the second time four years previously, and the difficulty in this war was to discover from what direction the enemy would next appear.

Bancroft says "they stealthily approached towns even in the heart of Massachusetts."

Six days after this letter was written, August 29th, the French and Indians appeared suddenly at Haverhill, and massacred the inhabitants, beating the minister, Benjamin Rolfe, to death; braining his wife with a tomahawk; dashing the head of his babe against a stone, and "there were a multitude of the slain."

Thomas Welles 1598—Jan. 14, 1660.

Thomas Welles, born in 1598 was descended from an old family of the English nobility. He was twice married, first to Elizabeth Hunt, who died in 1640, afterwards to Elizabeth (Deming) Foote. We are descended from the first wife, Elizabeth Hunt. With his wife, he left Roth-nell, Northamptonshire, Eng., and came to America with Lord Say-and-Sele early in 1636.

They settled at Saybrook, but soon removed to Hartford, where he always held a prominent place in public affairs. He was chosen a magistrate in 1637, and for the remaining twenty-two



years of his life, continued in some important office.

He was the fourth Governor, but had been Deputy, or Lieutenant Governor, Moderator of the General Court and Commissioner under the earliest two, Haynes and Hopkins. He was Governor two years, Deputy Governor four years, Secretary of State seven years, and Treasurer twelve years.

All these services were without pay from the State. No Governor received a salary until 1677 when the General Court granted thirty pounds annually, "because of many expenses and charges."

He died on Sunday, January 14, 1660, in Wethersfield, and was probably buried there, his body being afterwards removed to the Center church Cemetery in Hartford, the exact place of interment being unknown.





The following is a copy of the first deed ever given of the Merwin land in Durham; the original deed of 1687 with the seals and signatures being still in the possession of the family of Miles Talcott Merwin.

The land was given to Major Nash by the General Court for his services in the Indian Wars.

TO ALL CHRISTIAN PEOPLE to whom these presents shall come, Greeting: Know ye yt Wee Sarah Nash, Philip Payne & Mary my wife & Hannah Ball widd. the son-in-law natt & lawfull daughters & Executors of ye last will and testant of ye hono'ed father, Major John Nash, late of Newhaven deceased, for and in consideration of ye sum of ffifty pounds in Current Country pay according to Inventory apprised and payable by us ye sd Executors according to agreement wth & unto Major Aaron Cook of Northampton in ye Massachusetts Colony in right of Elizabeth his wife late deceased, and one of ye daughters of ye sd Maj'r John Nash and one of ye executors & legatees named in his said last will and testant, and for and towards ye paym't of ye sd sum of ffifty as a part of sd paym't have demised granted & made over, & by these presents I do demise grant make over and confirm for us,

each and every of us, the Heirs Executors & Assigns for ever unto ye sd Aaron Cook One tract or parcell of land, given and granted by ye Gen'll Court at Hartford in ye Colony of Connecticut by their act bearing date Octobr 7th, 1674 as in & by ye same may & doth appear, & by their order lay'd out to ye sd Maj'r Nash by John Moss & John Bracket, Surveyors appointed thereabouts

lying & being at a place called Cogonshake neere Wallingford Containing by estimation three hundred acres be it more or less, bounded by a white oak at ye north east Corner marked I. N. I. M. I. B., from thence southward to a Beech tree marked as above, from thence westward to a grt Chestnut tree marked in like manner from thence due west to Wallingford East bounds; from thence to a small white oak standing in Middletown south ffrom where Wallingford bound stays. This oak is marked I. N. wh ffarme or tract of land is appraised in Inventory of ye sd Maj'r's Estate at thirty pounds.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the sd ffarme or tract of land (soo valewed & appraised as aforsd) with ye woods, ways, waters, water Courses, Swamps, Uplands, meadows & apurtenances with all ye libertys, privaledge, proffits & advantages thereunto belonging to him ye sd

Maj'r Aaron Cook his Heirs Executrs Administrators or Assignees forever in fee simple yielding or paying to his Majestie and his Successors only ye 5th part of gold & Silver oar as by Charter is provided without any claims, demands, oposition, trouble or molestation to him, or them, or any of them, by us the sd Sarah Nash, Philip & Mary Paine & Hannah Ball, or of or from the Heirs Executor or Administrators or of any of us or them, or of, from, or by any other person or persons, claiming or to claime by from or under us or any of us, for, and or by other means or movement by any meanes directly or indirectly whatsoever.

In Witness Whereof we have hereunto set hands & seales this 27th day of October, 1687.

Philip Payne (seal), Sarah nash (seal)  
Mary payne (seal),  
hannah Bal (seal).

Sealed and delivered in  
presence of us.

Thomas tallmadge,  
Jno. Tallmadge.

This writing was acknowledged  
by the subscribers therein named  
to be their voluntary Act & deed  
ye day & yeare as above.

Before me Wm. Jones.

June ye 3d, 1708, this Instrument was Recorded in ye Records for ye Town of Durham, folio 6.

pr James Wadsworth T. Clerk.

On the outside is written "a deed of cocking-cheg. Major Nash's Heirs Deed to Major Cook, 1687."

An extract from a deed of a part of the Nash land to Daniel Merwin in 1724, some of which is still in the possession of the Merwin family.

“Know all men that I, Aaron Cook of Hartford in the County of Hartford, in the Colony of Connecticut, for the sum of Two hundred pounds paid by Daniel Merwin of Durham in the County of New Haven \* \* \* \*  
have sold unto the said Daniel Merwin a certain piece or Parcel of land being a Part of the Farm called Nashis Farm in Sd Durham containing one hundred acres together with all the Remainder of Sd Farm only excepting two hundred acres at the eastwardly end provided there be three hundred acres or more  
\* \* \* \* \*

“In witness whereof I have signed sealed and delivered this Testament this twenty 2d Day of Octobr in the eleventh year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George of Great Britian, King &c. Anno Domini 1724.

Aaron Cooke Senr.

This has not the clause of the older deed, one-fifth of all gold or silver ore to his Majestie.

Milford May 12th, 1697.

An Inventory of ye Estate of Miles Murwin  
Senr of Milford, dec'd.

	£	s	d
Wearing Aparell £30, 0s, 6d, fulled linssy woolsy 5 . . . . .	35	00	06
two bedsteads and bed furniture £19, 4s, Cubords, babbes, Cheses and a box, £4, 11s, . . . . .	23	15	00
table linen and pillow beer 16, 13, 04 Carpet and sheets 23, 15, . . . . .	40	05	06
A cubbord form, Cushions, thread and hose yarn . . . . .	02	05	06
Glass bottles woollen and linnen yarn and cards, . . . . .	08	16	05
Jeny baskets Juggs wheeles flax and a box iron, . . . . .	05	14	05
Cash and a Silver Cup 7, 3, 6d, Gim blet buttons and Knives, 18s 4d, . .	08	02	10
A pair of mony scales and pins and a chest, sheares needles Iron tooles, .	08	02	10
Needles silk Rasors Socks A pc broad cloth, paper, combs, . . . . .	03	08	03
Buckles timber nails, a wheat Riddle 2, 18, hackling, . . . . .	05	19	06
Iron tooles Grater spoon and nails 2, 10, 6, pipes a box and buttons powder butchers ax, 2, 0, 8, . . . .	04	19	02
Scotch cloth linnen 6, 8, Iron sheets old guns pistolls and sword £11, 1s, 9d, . . . . .	17	19	09
A new fether bed Curtens blankets, Coverlids, . . . . .	17	04	00
Screws pens hooks locks forks a chest a hat and a box, . . . . .	07	03	06



hops Ropes and hooks and lines a bed sheet and furniture, . . . . .	09 11 06
A hammock tallow and flax Corne Oates, . . . . .	30 16 09
Sheets tow cloth Carry boxes, barells and bushels, . . . . .	13 05 00
A table chairs, bras and peuter and a 110 acres of land, . . . . .	59 07 00
pewter and spoones, tinware, bras mortar, earthen ware and measures,	05 10 06
wooden ware Sadle Chafin dish iron pestle and mortar, . . . . .	12 10 06
bags Corne, wheat and meal pork and beefe, tramells tongs, . . . . .	11 10 06
Cider and old cask £5, 15s, tobacco Oyle pack sadle hors halter, . . . . .	14 16 00
Oxen Cows a bull and young cattle 26, 13, one tray China a hetchell and books, . . . . .	32 06 03
24 Bushel malt and a mare 4, 14, land bought of Nathll Farran £10,	14 14 00
pewter and spoones, Earthenware wooden ware and iron ware iron and a Canoe £1, 14s, 9d, Thomas Murwin's debts by bill £2,	51 14 09
One butternut sheet an old one, . . . . .	00 15 00
	<hr/>
	453 11 11

The In'y taken by us

John Smith

Jonathan Baldwin } Sworn

Timothy Baldwin }

Mrs. Sarah Merwin ye widow Sworn

to ye of ye estate all before ye

Gods word.

Extracts from different Pages of the old Account Book:

*Miles Merwin*

His Book

Bought January ye 11th.

A. D., 1796, price 4 shillings, 6 pence.

		£	s	d
1795	to a school rate to Abram Camp	0	12	3
	to a school rate to Mr Coe & Dennis Camp	0	9	8
	to a barrel of cider	0	6	6
1796	to weaving 19½ yds of cloth at 8d. per yd	0	13	0
	to weaving 20½ yds of cloth at 7d. per yd	0	12	0
	to 4½ pounds of mutton @ 4½	0	1	¼
	to Olive and Ruth at tayloring	0	6	2
1797	to one day Braking flax	0	3	6
	to a dozen of ale wives	0	0	9
	to a ladder	0	1	1½
	to fanning rye and flax seed	0	2	0
1798	to a quart of brandy	0	1	6
1799	to weaving 17¼ yds brown tow cloth @ 7d. pr			
	yd.	0	10	1
	to weaving 9½ yds table linen at 8d. per yd	0	6	4
	to weaving 6 yds check linen at 8d. per yd	0	4	0
	to weaving 5 handkerchiefs	0	5	6
	to weaving 79 yds cloth at 7d. per yd	2	6	1
	to a callico gown	0	12	0
1800	to weaving 41 yds at 7d. per yd	1	3	11
	to weaving 13½ yds striped linen at 8d. per yd	0	9	0
1822	Oct. to two hands ½ day moving old school-house and carting boards & lumber from Middletown.			
			\$00	50



## ERRATA.

Page 62. For Joel Parmelee (1714-1788) read Joel Parmelee (1679-1748).

Page 28. In the list of Newton descendants of Miles Merwin of the seventh generation now living in Durham, Jonathan Edward Newton was omitted.

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The small figures prefixed to some names indicate the generation in the line of descent from the emigrant ancestor.

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